Saturday Night

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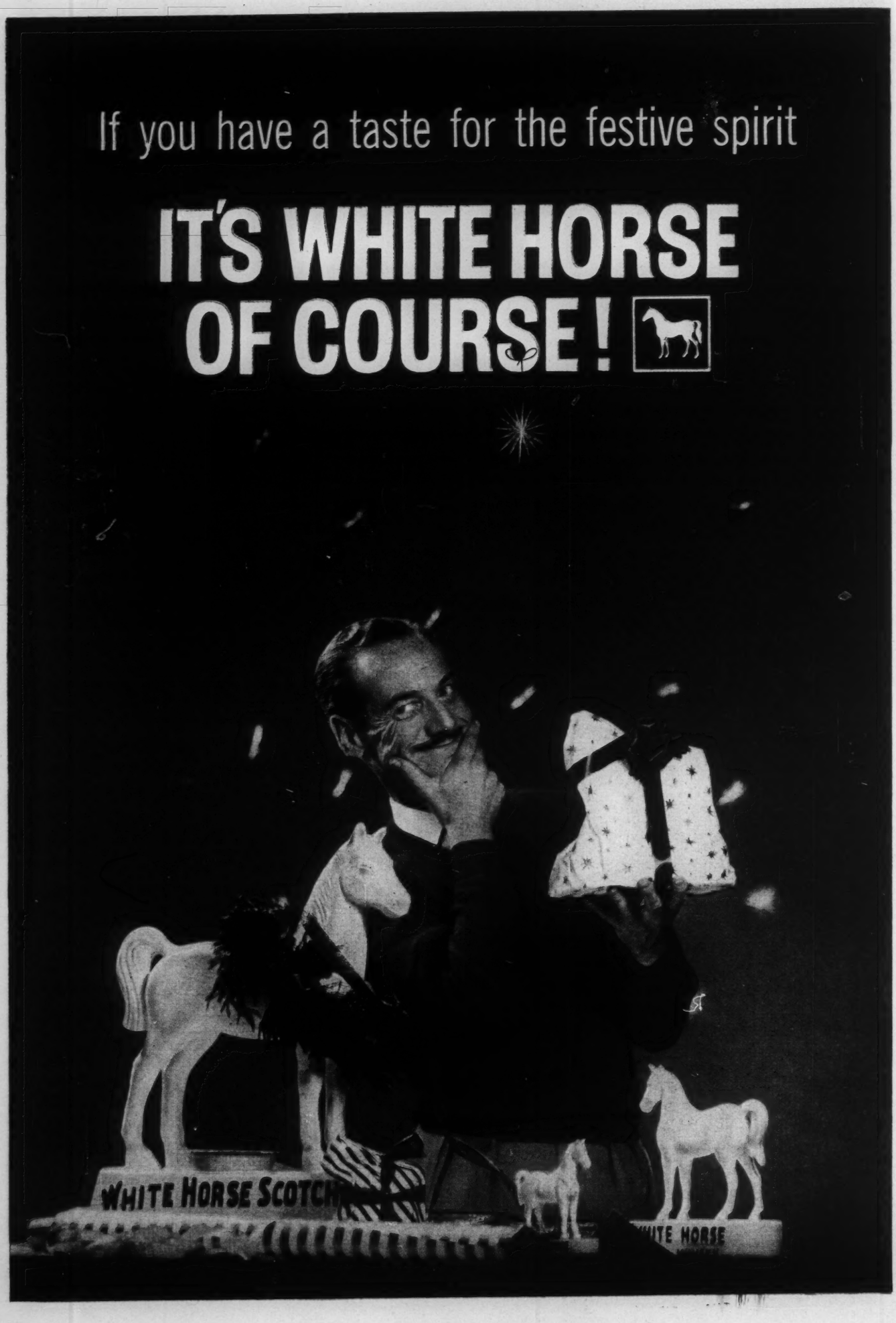
Christmas 1959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WHITE HORSE SCOTCH

Saturday Night

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INSIDE STORY

THE COVER: "The Adoration of the Magi", impression from an engraved plate of a chandelier from the Cathedral at Aix-la-Chapelle. Rhenish, XII century. Reproduced by courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

Douglas Wilson, a former professor of psychology at the University of Western Ontario, is now the resident minister at the Protestant Church in St. Adele, Quebec. Although he is still a layman, his sermons and pastoral work have made him highly regarded in the ministry. His sermon for a modern Christmas appears on Page 9.

Edwin Copps, SN's Ottawa correspondent, is given a full fling in his report on the recent Great Tory Convention beginning on Page 11. The Tories, he believes, are going to stay in power for a long, long time and may well beat the 22 year run of their durable Liberal predecessors. And currently, as the convention showed, they are in very good heart.

This year some 150,000,000 Christmas cards have been produced commercially in Canada and several millions more have been imported—the figures work out to about 60 cards per family. How this remarkable custom—and business—has developed from quite unrelated origins is told by **Marcus Van Steen** in "The Fantastic History of the Christmas Card", on Page 16.

Our Scrooge-like New York correspondent, as **Anthony West** describes himself, makes a manful effort to summon up the Christmas spirit. But the Christmas scene—with its solid-gold putters, "sick" dolls and lethal "weapons" for the younger fry—currently gets him down a bit. For his entertaining report from the U.S. metropolis, see Page 23.

A Canadian horse has never won the "triple crown" of American racing. But now—in the stable of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Taylor—a promising contender has appeared. Before you telephone your bookmaker read "The Pigeon-Toed Champion", by **Jim Coleman,** on Page 39.

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December 19, 1959

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Letters

Placing the Blame

I have just been reading Mr. Edwin Copps' article on the BBG [SN Nov. 21] and I venture to suggest that you might do well to vet rather carefully any future articles he submits to you. For this one is lamentably slipshod on facts.

For one thing, it is at three points seriously out of date. Mr. Copps lists both Mr. Furlong and Col. David Stewart as members of the Board. Mr. Furlong resigned in May; Col. Stewart's resignation was presented to the Board in September. Mr. Duchemin's paper is no longer called the *"Sydney Post-Record"*. It changed its name some time ago to *"Cape Breton Post"*.

Next, Mr. Allison is not a Vice-Chairman. The Act (which I am afraid Mr. Copps has not read) does not provide for two Vice-Chairmen. It provides (section 3 (1) and (4) for three full-time members, of whom the Governor in Council designates one to be Chairman and a second to be Vice-Chairman. The Governor in Council designated Dr. Stewart as Chairman and Mr. Duhamel as Vice-Chairman.

Third, I am not a "three-time", but a four-time "reject for elective office". Mr. Copps has overlooked my defeat as a candidate for the Montreal City Council in 1940.

Fourth, I have written only two obscure books, not "several". I should have thought that the one Mr. Copps calls the "best-known" was the more obscure of the two; at any rate, it did not get two successive two-column reviews in the *Winnipeg Free Press*, nor a full-page review, an editorial and two long editorial articles in SATURDAY NIGHT, as the other did.

Fifth, Mr. Copps is too kind in giving the Board "credit" for "inviting public reaction to their proposal and giving Canadians an opportunity to protest". Section 11 (2) of the Broadcasting Act, under which the Board operates, lays it down that the Board must "afford licensees an opportunity of making representations to the Board with respect to" proposed Regulations. The Board deserves Mr. Copps' kind words only to the extent that it invited representations from other people as well.

I venture to suggest also that some of Mr. Copps' criticisms of the Board might perhaps be addressed to Parliament. It was Parliament, not the Board, which decided (Section 10 of the Broadcasting Act) that the Board was to "ensure . . . the provision of a varied and comprehensive broadcasting service of a high standard that is basically Canadian in content and character", and was to "regulate the establishment and operation of networks of broadcasting stations, the activities of public and private broadcasting stations in Canada and the relationship between them".

OTTAWA EUGENE FORSEY

Editor's note: The BBG's secretariat itself supplied the names to our correspondent. It, too, seemed unaware of the resignations.

Hammish and Dull

With regard to your recent article concerning the BBG (Board of Broadcast Governors). I wholeheartedly agree, we are having the ultimate in boring so-called Canadian culture thrust upon us by employing a "55% Canadian" policy.

I think it stinks!

Down East where *you* are, you have the privilege of changing channels. Out here we are without choice *and* without voice. An evening of TV is so boring here now, on an average, that an additional few percent will not change the overall picture to any great degree. I'm not a rabid fan of Western epics, Hollywood style—I'm not an absolute lover of any one type of programming. I like anything *well* done, and love the live football and hockey, etc.

I hold very little regard for CBC and culture—their style. Most of their dramas are hammish, humorless and dull. So, I am at least *one* citizen who has spoken up against the decision of our BBG.

Topflight citizens they may well be, but hardly a cross-section of Canadian viewers and therefore certainly not qualified to decree what we shall see.

However, we still have the alternative of watching or not watching and there is always a good game of cribbage to take its place, should our "Canadian culture" become too hard for us to swallow.

SASKATOON (MRS.) M. CARLSON

Sorry, Dr. Davies

With reference to your Ottawa letter entitled "The Great Canadian Brainwash" [SN, Nov. 21]. I hold no brief for the Broadcast Board of Governors of the CBC, but take strong objection to the scurrilous and ill-informed attack of your Ottawa correspondent on one of the distinguished members of this Board.

Your correspondent, Mr. Edwin Copps, refers to the Rev. Emlyn Williams with the suggestion that he is a third-rate semi-Canadian Baptist import. If Mr. Copps took more pains to get the facts concerning the people about whom he writes, he would have discovered that the correct name of this gentleman is the Rev. Emlyn Davies, BA, BD, B.Litt. (Oxon), DD.

He is one of Canada's outstanding preachers, is the minister of York Baptist Church, one of the largest Baptist churches in the British Empire, and recently the chairman of the Canadian Council of Churches. He is held in the highest regard by all denominations and recognized as an outstanding and well-informed clergyman. It seems to me that a responsible paper like SATURDAY NIGHT owes a public apology to this distinguished Church leader.

VANCOUVER J. WILLOX DUNCAN

Editor's note: The substitution of Williams for Davies was an unfortunate error for which SN apologizes.

The Poor Indian

Re: "Lo, the Poor, Irresponsible, Lazy Indian". Editors of SATURDAY NIGHT may not be poor or lazy but they certainly have shown themselves to be irresponsible by publishing this . . . Readers expect and often get some rather odd and sometimes poorly-developed ideas in letters-to-the-editor. This is as it should be, for these letters express the individual opinions of the writers and the editors are in no way responsible for them. But the editors *are* responsible for articles which are accepted for publication. Editors who care anything for the reputations of their journals should assure themselves that their writers are reasonably well informed.

The article by John T. Schmidt was so prejudiced and so lacking in basic understanding of the subject that it would be difficult to refute briefly. Since SATURDAY NIGHT has published this article, I think, out of respect for its readers, it should invite someone to present another (and I hope better-informed) point of view. There are many people with a basic knowledge of anthropology and sociology who also

are familiar with Indians and have worked with them and for them.

These people, because of their knowledge and their humanitarian outlook have a sympathetic understanding of Indians and would be most capable of presenting a contrasting viewpoint. Some Indians, too, would be willing and able to speak for themselves. Please let us see such an article on your back page next time.

ISLINGTON (MRS.) HELEN TRACY

Whose Cold Feet?

I read with a great deal of interest your article, "Grey Cup: Corn and Cornucopia." It contained a lot of interesting history which I had either not known or forgotten.

However, I did have a smidgin of difficulty reconciling one or two passages which I quote or paraphrase:

"After all, the average Prairie City was a cold dull place in early December and a trip East looked good".

"The Ottawa field was covered with ice and the weather was near-zero".

"The game was played at Toronto on an ice-covered gridiron".

The frozen Westerners must have had themselves a ball in this tropical setting.

VANCOUVER R. H. JAY

Buying British Books

Your correspondent, Rev. J. A. Davidson [SN Oct. 24], placed his finger squarely on a number of sore points in the matter of book buying. Mr. Davidson is not alone by any means in his mild indignation over the outrageous prices charged by the Canadian book trade for titles published in Canada and Britain. A number of letters to the editor have appeared in local newspapers on this subject, and all have wanted to know the "Why" of the price spread.

So far, no satisfactory answer has appeared. J. G. McClelland's explanation [SN Nov. 7] is more a diatribe than an answer. Can Mr. McClelland really justify the 70% difference in price between the $3.50 paid for the English edition of Creighton's *Dominion of the North,* mentioned by Mr. Davidson, and the $6.00 charged in Canada? Maybe this staunch defender of the Canadian price structure, would like to come to grips with the problem of the paper-covered Penguin and Pelican books which, to take the instance of Lewis' *The History of the British Navy,* sells for 3'/6 (48c) at *retail* in Britain and for 70c here, a difference of 48%.

If Canadian retailers were to buy these books from British retailers, the spread would make a little sense, but not when they are purchased, as they undoubtedly are, from the publishers or middlemen. The difference, far from being 48%, is more likely to be another example of a whopping 70%. And let it be remembered that there is no duty or federal sales tax to pay on British books.

If memory serves, the book trade of this country met in convention here a few years ago, and the president was quoted as saying, in the local press, that the trade would likely have to reconsider the currency conversion rate. Does the answer to high book prices lie here? Possibly the trade should be reminded that the exchange rate is in the neighbourhood of $2.70 to the pound.

At the risk of being charged with lack of patriotism, as Mr. Davidson has been, I shall continue to buy books in Britain. Actually, I have little to fear, for I have demonstrated my patriotism in uniform, and neither I nor any other ex-service man served in battle to make the country safe for the sinister operations of our Canadian publishers and book sellers.

VANCOUVER H. C. MANNING

Bad Logic

The Reverend Mr. Davidson is writing about imported books, and I am a publisher of Canadian books. However, I feel obliged to point out that the English jobbers whose services he favors do not share a farthing of the Canadian booksellers' and publishers' costs of bringing new foreign books to his attention, whether via our own bookstores or through review and advertising media such as SATURDAY NIGHT.

Mr. Davidson would, I am sure, be the first to protest if he were deprived of these literary shopping services. But he apparently believes that where he does his purchasing is another matter. That kind of logic breaks down rather badly.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment. Of course, the question is much too complicated to discuss adequately in a few words, and I do not pretend to have done so.

TORONTO MARSH JEANNERET

University of Toronto Press Director

Flexible Arrangement

It is difficult to answer the Reverend J. A. Davidson's article *The Crazy World of Book Publishing* [SN Oct. 2] without becoming tiresomely detailed and technical; still, it is a pleasure to try. Mr. Davidson is genuinely interested and his concern is understandable.

One general statement covers broadly the problem of publishing general books in Canada: for this small market there is no set procedure and the publication of virtually every Canadian general book is an *ad hoc* arrangement. In England or the United States it is normal to assume that the books on a publisher's list will be published by him domestically; in Canada it may be so, but it is not automatically the best arrangement. The factors that must be weighed in each case are cost, timing in relation to these two larger markets, and the author's interest.

Consideration of profit is of course present, where possible; but in some transactions profit is not possible even in theory and that is an accepted and understood condition.

Let me take such of the cases cited by Mr. Davidson as I am familiar with and demonstrate the problem:

When we arranged for a re-issue of Donald Creighton's *Dominion of the North,* the original English distributor was not confident of a market for it. We had therefore to make the best arrangement we could in order to have it available in England since it seemed to us unthinkable that it shouldn't be reviewed or known at all there; in addition an order from England would help the costs on our Canadian printing.

A small edition was therefore sold to the English publisher at cost and at a reduced royalty to the author. In England the book was distributed at much less than normal Canadian costs; all this in order that it should not be priced completely out of the British market. There is something like "dumping" in this kind of operation, but it is the only basis on which many Canadian books will sell at all in Britain.

Mr. Davidson is perplexed that three of our recent distinguished novels were printed outside Canada.

Execution by Colin McDougall was printed in England because by sharing an edition with an English publisher we ensured publication there. Fiction cannot be imported into England from a dollar country and there are not many Canadian novels on which a publisher in England will risk an edition without Canadian or American distribution.

A Mixture of Frailties came to us late when American publication plans were well advanced, and the book already in proof. By buying a large number of copies from the American publisher instead of printing in Canada we accomplished three things: we insured simultaneous publication; our order so increased the American printing that the U.S. price was reduced from $4.50 to $3.95; we were able to price at $3.95 which, publishing on our own, we could not have done.

Much the same consideration ruled in the case of Hugh MacLennan's *The Watch That Ends The Night.* The combined printing helped to keep the price down.

I can sympathize with Mr. Davidson's bewilderment, I hope he will sympathize with ours. Let him at least be reassured as to the health of Canadian general publishing; there are more and better books published by Canadians every year.

In this sense Canadian publishing is healthier than it ever was. So long as our market remains very small this will re-

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main an unprofitable business, but to a Canadian publisher it is attractive because it is challenging; and it gets done by the sort of flexible arrangements I have outlined.

TORONTO JOHN GRAY
The Macmillan Company of Canada

Mr. Miller's Ideas

Congratulations on the revealing article by John A. Irving [SN, Nov. 21].

But what would be radical about a conservative, or anyone, who adopts P.R. techniques to maintain a status quo? It is certainly not, to my reasoning, either democratic or desirable to try to govern humans by emotions, as Raymond Miller advocates and presumes to be necessary. It is just such deceit as has been hidden by "Public Relations" practitioners that has brought a lot of the current corruption and sickness into our way of life. To suggest playing upon our emotions is to make our efforts at true education i.e. developing reasoning beings, farcical.

I think Mr. Miller should take his book and himself to some secluded retreat and reason that there is a difference between emotion and faith. He sounds like an altogether evil or misguided influence at present.

One cannot help seeing the need to eliminate, or severely control, competition in our economic life, while allowing it freedom in our play and cultural life.

Anyway, I "for one" do not want capitalism—whether called "service" or "exploitive"—to do to the rest of the world what it has done to America and Europe. If we have nothing better to offer let's "shut up" and hope others will lead us out of the wilderness before we blow ourselves to bits "defending" it.

Again, congratulations on the content of your magazine, each fortnight.

VICTORIA S. C. W. STOKES

Civil Service Pay

In your issue of November 7 your correspondent writes in his Ottawa Letter about "Diefenbaker's Strongest Lieutenant". The latter half of his "Letter" is devoted to the denial of salary revision to the Civil Service resulting from the rejection of the recommendations of the Civil Service Commission by the Minister of Finance on October 13th.

He writes "The proposed increases, he (Mr. Fleming) said, would cost the treasury $242 million in the present fiscal year. Already facing a deficit, the government simply could not afford such a hike in its overhead." However, "such a hike in its overhead" did not confront the Government since the contribution to the pension funds of $107 million is not cash. There is no money in the pension funds. This figure is simply an actuarial estimate of the increased liabilities of the pension funds resulting from the increase. Parliament could vote this bookkeeping entry at any time.

Then he writes, "There is an established system of annual raises in the Civil Service; by working harder and qualifying for these merit raises; individual government employees can increase their incomes to meet rising living costs." This doesn't work too well for those civil servants who are at maximum salary. And, by the way, the maximum salary is the rate for the job in the Civil Service. The rates below this figure are recruiting and promotional rates. The civil servant who cannot qualify for one of these increases had better watch out because he is likely on the way out.

And then, "the general opinion remains that most government jobs are soft touches, generally held by incompetent and lazy clerks." In the light of the facts of Civil Service Administration and overall governmental control this statement comes strangely with a "Letter" entitled "Diefenbaker's Strongest Lieutenant", since it condemns the efforts of the Civil Service Commission, the Department of Justice and the Treasury Board all of whom combine to administer the Service.

It may be useful to point out that the number of "soft touches" which your correspondent refers to have been increased in number each year since the present Government took office with Cabinet (Treasury Board) approval, and, in fact, the rate of increase is growing. Thousands of new positions have been added since June 1957 making new opportunities for "incompetent and lazy clerks".

Under arrangements already approved by the Cabinet the growth in the Civil Service will continue. And, it should be noted, these increases in the Civil Service do not take into account the armed forces and the Department of National Defence.

In a concluding paragraph, your correspondent writes, "Finance Minister Fleming supplied some statistical evidence to support this general view that the public service is neither as arduous nor as underpaid as its propagandists would have outsiders believe". The "propagandists" in this case are the Honorable S. Hughes, Chairman of the Civil Service Commission and his two colleagues, Mr. Paul Pelletier and Miss Ruth Addison who made the salary recommendations to the Government.

It was these recommendations which the Government rejected as unacceptable "even if the money were available."

Joint Action Committee
Public Service Organizations
of Canada R. A. TOMBS,
OTTAWA *Secretary*

Comment of the Day

The Need for Christmas

CHRISTMAS has always attracted controversy to itself. It is inherent in its nature. For Christmas is at one and the same time a deeply significant religious festival and a long-established pagan revel. This year's controversy about the solid gold putter advertisement in *The Wall Street Journal* is only the latest in a thousand-year series of mutual recriminations between those who want only a party and those who would prefer to see a much-needed spiritual revivification.

Rancorous as the argument has been this year it can get nowhere near the rancor once felt amongst Christians themselves. Three hundred years ago, when Cromwell and his joyless churchmen were running a temporary republic in England, it was not the shopkeepers who were charged with desecrating Christmas, but the priests themselves. For the Puritans it was the sentimental idolatry of the crib and child which spoiled the idea of Christmas, not commerce. And so they issued a proclamation on the matter:

Resolved by the Parliament

That the Markets be kept to Morrow, being the Five and twentieth day of December; And that the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, and the Justices of Peace for the City of Westminster and Liberties thereof, to take care, That all such persons as shall open their Shops on that day, be protected from Wrong or Violence, and the Offenders punished.

Resolved by the Parliament

That no Observation shall be had of the Five and twentieth day of December commonly called Christmas-Day nor any solemnity used or exercised in Churches upon that Day in respect thereof.

But Cromwell fell, the king returned and the crib was put back in the chancel. Neither commercial nor doctrinal excesses can banish a festival consisting of such a magical blend of faith, mother-love and merriment. Humanity needs one so badly.

Munitions and Peace

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER is junketing round the world in the cause of peace and Mr. Harold Macmillan used his peace-making trip to Moscow as one of the inducements to the British voter to re-elect him. But both these leaders have also to accommodate themselves to a powerful armaments lobby which, while not so crude and ruthless in its workings as the pressure from the pre-First World War arms makers, is still heard from loud and clear in the most surprising places.

In a report by the Select Committee on Estimates published recently in London it was shown that the export of arms from Britain netted a return of about $300 million per year for the last three years. The committee, in discussing this, went on to say that, as a result of representations made by industry, a thorough investigation was made to see if Britain was getting her share of the world market. Though the committee was fairly happy after the investigation that this was the case, they did feel that Britain's attempts to sell arms were not always "fully translated into the determined effort necessary for effective sales promotion." Such promotion was necessary, the committee went on to say, because the market "is increasing year by year and is becoming highly competitive."

The committee then made a set of specific recommendations which would make it easier for a concerted effort to be made by the departments of the British government concerned so that the market could be enlarged and made more profitable to British industry.

We suppose there is nothing inherently wrong in making armaments for competitive market conditions. But it sorts oddly for a committee to spell out the ground rules when that committee is appointed by a government elected on a promise to work for peace.

Fitness, Climate & Scenery

MR. HARCOURT ROY of North Vancouver does not mince words. The Canadian masses, he says, are an unfit, sluggish bunch. "Our streets and buildings are full of third class humans using first class facilities. Hospitals are overflowing, mental illness is increasing. Heart disease, cancer, digestive disorder, stress and tension are the killers in this 'easeful' and 'plentiful' society. There are too many snakes in The Garden".

Against these snakes Mr. Roy is preparing to mount a national fitness campaign. He does not want people to take up sports (sports can "fragment" and "weaken" a fitness drive) but merely to get into the habit of being active, alert and physically in the pink.

Mr. Roy's aim is high and we hope that he will not be too disappointed if his shots fall short. For there are formidable obstacles to keeping fit in this country compared with, let us say, Europe. In Europe young and old alike ride bicycles to work and tour the countryside on them in the summer. But where does Canada have the kind of scenery that one can appreciate on a bicycle? And what city constabulary would welcome large numbers of cyclists in the rush-hour traffic? In Europe again, schoolboys and girls need only a plot of land and they can play soccer, rugby and field hockey or organize track and field sports at any time of the year. What plot of land in Canada, apart from Mr. Roy's own West coast, would be free of frost or rain for even half the year?

This is not to say that we could not, if we really wanted, find ways and means of becoming fitter than we are. But it will take a lot of money expended on gymnasiums and other indoor facilities before we can be as fit as those people in the countries from whence we originally came.

Money and Government

THE ANNUAL MEETINGS of the chartered banks have nearly all been told by their respective presidents that interest rates may rise even higher in the near future and that we are at any rate in for a sustained period of high money cost. Since the Federal Reserve Board in the United States shares this view we can look on it more as a promise than a prediction. As the announcement has always been accompanied by a profit and loss sheet showing a substantial rise in dividends for bank shareholders there has been some muttering about bankers looking after their own inasmuch as the banks have been tucking away substantial sums into reserve funds, have been earning up to twenty per cent more profit than last year, and have maintained their service charges to customers. But the interest rate is not something which can be arbitrarily arrived at.

The interest rate is determined by the ordinary laws of supply and demand and these laws, as far as the money market is concerned, are affected by five major factors:

i. *Productivity of the money sought.* If the return from the business for which the money is raised is going to be high then the borrower will be prepared to pay high interest for his loan.

ii. *Thrift.* Are the people who are mak-

Cold Weather Suggestion

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ing money prepared to put it out to work for them or are they merely going to buy an increased number of creature comforts or non-durable luxuries?

iii. *Government expenditures.* Are people going to ask for an expansion of government services (new roads, more pensions, increased unemployment benefits, health insurance schemes) which will, if met, cut down the amount of money available for the private citizen's enterprises?

iv. *Liquidity rate.* The decision, by a man with money to lend, whether he will lend it for a long period or whether he will lend it only for a short term in the hope that he can make a better investment if inflation threatens to nullify his original profit.

v. *The amount of money printed.* The amount of the gross national product which can be used, as it were, for collateral to keep trade and commerce moving.

All of these factors involve personal decisions by a great many people. The cumulative total of these decisions cannot be easily set aside by any one decision the government or the Bank of Canada might take, especially, since governmental decisions will have to be translated into action and that action might again be stymied by the speed with which money can be put into circulation by the people.

In other words, if we all spent less, borrowed less and saved more, there would be no tightness of money and interest rates would be low. But since everyone wants to live better, every manufacturer wants to capitalize on this demand for the things which make such a living standard possible, and every government from the municipal to federal level is being urged to provide the services to cope with the new standard, then money is needed by all. If you have, like the banks, what everybody wants, your terms are obviously those which the most urgently desirous person will offer. There is not much government can do about that, at least, not if we believe in capitalism at all.

Is Theatre Dead?

THE CURRENT ISSUE of *The Tamarack Review* concerns itself with the state of theatre in Canada. One of its conclusions: no one can make Canadian theatre pay (The Crest in Toronto has lost an average of $30,000 per year for five years, Theatre under the Stars in Vancouver has had to be heavily underwritten by that city, James Domville lost every cent that he had made in a year's tour with *My Fur Lady* in five disastrous weeks with last summer's *Jubilee*, the summer theatres "have a fantastic mortality rate").

Another conclusion is that there is no native Canadian theatre because:

(A) there are no playwrights capable of writing a Canadian play

(B) there are no full time directors who could interpret such a play even if one were to be written

(C) there are no actors who are Canadian enough to play in it since all those now playing in this country either got their training or experience abroad in London or New York.

Perhaps the most crotchety conclusion is that Stratford "has evolved into a cultural equivalent of the Canadian National Exhibition grandstand show, an anti-artistic extravaganza. It [is] that dreariest of all successes, something which has made its mark by being dull in a new way".

All this dancing on the grave of Canadian theatre has its own macabre fascination but it cannot stop a great many people in both the amateur and professional theatre from going ahead and doing what they feel inclined to do. So the New Play Society in Toronto this season has worked a minor miracle in putting professional and amateur (or at best "student-professional") players together for three weeks, enticing good producers and putting on some remarkably competent performances of rather offbeat plays.

The first was Obey's *Noah* directed by Herbert Whittaker. The second was Brecht's *The Caucasian Chalk Circle,* another highly symbolic play, interestingly staged by George McCowan who, by the very simplicity of his treatment, forced the audience into thinking of what was being said rather than looking at what was being done. The third, *Legend of Lovers* by Jean Anouilh, is due on December 19th.

At the same time, the Crest was busy with a performance of *Macbeth,* there was a steady stream of moderate touring offerings, and every amateur group in the country was boning up for the Dominion Drama Festival which begins its yearly round of competitions after Christmas.

There may as yet be no Canadian theatre, but there is a fair amount of tolerable, even good, theatre in Canada. The latter in time will surely lead to the former, despite the lucubrations of those most closely and pessimistically connected with the art.

Rhodes Scholar Prize Winner

ON PAGE 18 of this issue we publish the second prize winning essay in SN's travel competition. We feel, as the judges did, that there is a consistent point of view in Mr. Stager's piece and that he presents his material in a concise, interesting and lively fashion. That such qualities of expressive communication are useful not just for competition purposes but for all scholastic activities was proved just before we went to press. It was announced that Mr. Stager, who graduated in economics from the Ontario Agricultural College this spring and is now on fellowship at Johns Hopkins University in Maryland, was awarded one of the two Rhodes Scholarships for Ontario.

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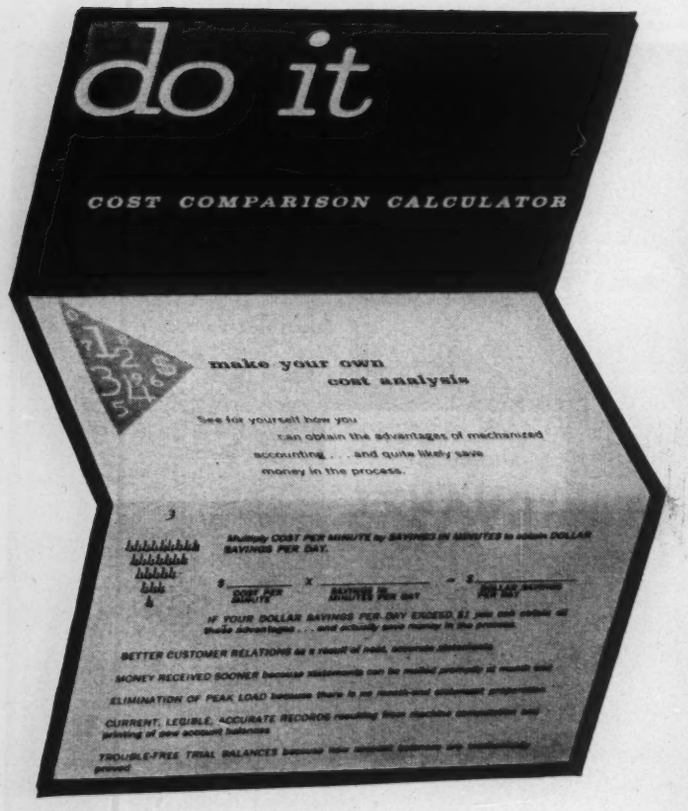
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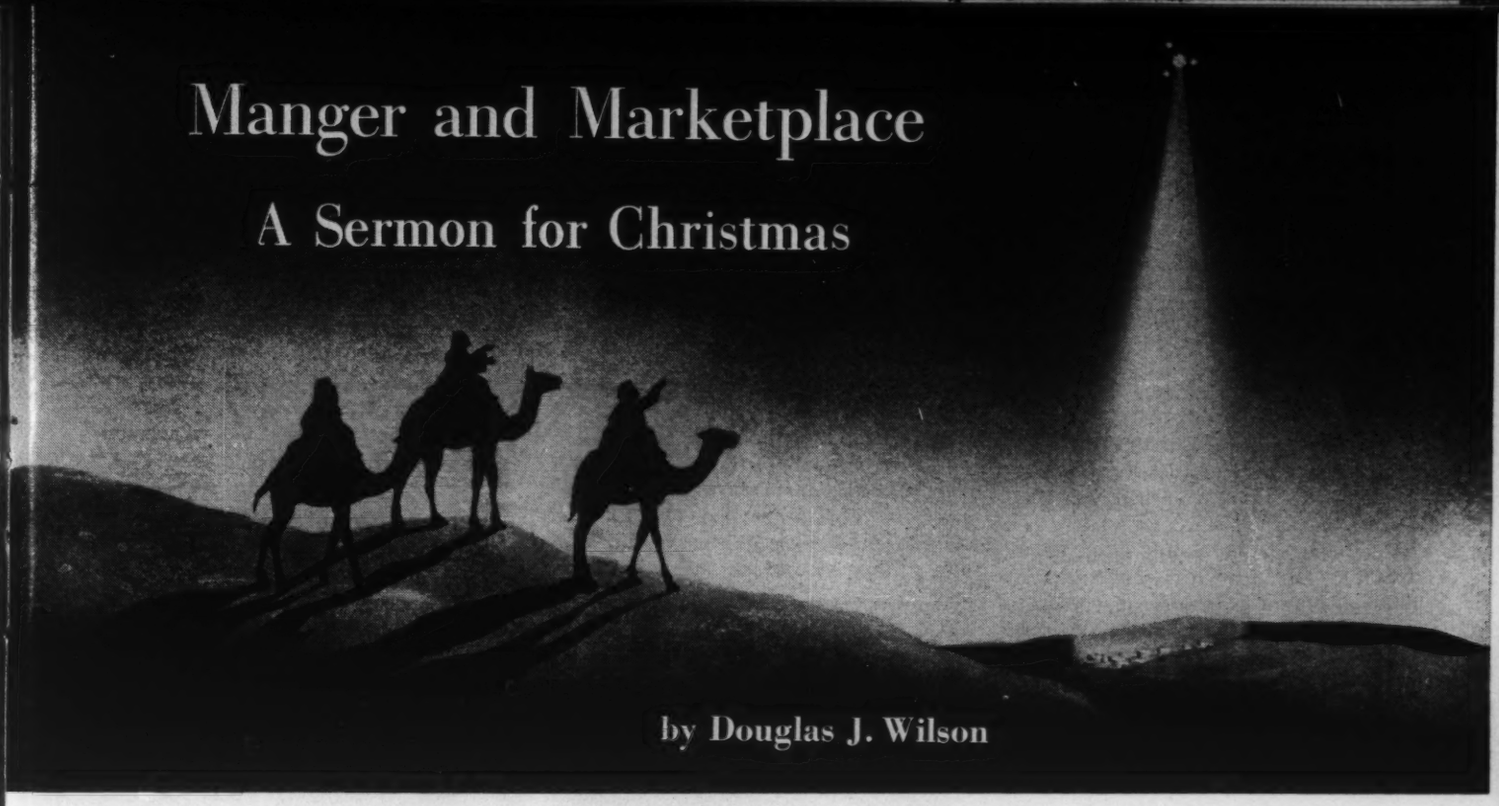
A Sermon for Christmas



by Douglas J. Wilson

IT IS VIRTUALLY impossible for anyone to talk about the Christmas story with an uncluttered mind. Whatever historical facts underlie the only two biblical sources, Matthew and Luke, we have to concede that they have been embellished, retouched and gift-wrapped like the presents we shall open next week.

The earliest decorations had probably been added before the two stories had been committed to writing. It is one of the perils of biography that by the time a personality has merited a detailed case history it is almost impossible to learn much about his background and formative years.

Luke, particularly, seemed to be aware of this limitation. He gives every sign of having tried to act like a responsible historian. In his opening words he maintains that he relied on eyewitnesses. But he also describes these people as "ministers of the word". This latter qualification may, to a critic, pose a question as to whether or not this might have imperceptibly slanted the description of what their eyes were alleged to have seen.

Luke also says that he had followed "all things"—that is, all relevant facts—"accurately for some time past". On the whole I am as willing to accept the basic features of the birth of Jesus as I am the log cabin of Abraham Lincoln. Compared with contemporary historians of secular happenings Luke was at least par for the course, I should think.

Tinsel Instead of Truth

It often happens that in marketing a product the package becomes more glamorous than the contents. Dean Inge once said that the devil sometimes changes the contents of a bottle without altering the label. One might reverse this about the Christmas event and say that gaudy labels, designed by different cultures, may obscure a reality that has remained constant.

Perhaps this tendency to distortion is what lies behind the recent cry to put Christ back in Christmas. I had not known that He had ever been removed.

The point at issue, however, is the contrast between the festivities bound to be associated with a gladsome anniversary and the deeper religious significance allegedly threatened by commercialism. But heavenly treasures are always and inevitably contained in earthen pottery; in fact, the pietistic pageants of a Sunday School differ only in degree from the uproar of Christmas traffic jams. Sooner or later they both have to point to the original cause of the pageant or the unusual shopping rush. If the artist chooses to portray actual figures to dramatize a notable birth I suppose that a businessman has the right to use his methods to tell the world that this period of the year is unique.

This "either-or" argument misses the point. The real aim, if the Christmas story is to be vital, is to put Christ into every day, every business transaction, every interpersonal relationship from washing the dishes to enacting national legislation.

History Has Two Faces

If, as I do, we adopt the view that the New Testament stories have some elements of historical validity in them, we may proceed to ask just what the modern significance of the recorded event may be. To do this it is necessary for us to ask what we mean by history itself. A mere recital of photographic-like happenings is not history; it is a chronicle or a diary. The true historian in any field is highly selective. If an ancient writer set out to tell us about the military history of Rome he cannot introduce Quintus Grattulus if Mr. Q. G. did not contribute to the military theme. If he were writing a novel things would be different.

The principle of selection used by biblical writers was religious in nature. For this reason it is imperative for us to reconstruct their backgrounds and presuppositions.

One of these presuppositions is "apocalypse". In a very rough fashion one may say that an apocalypse is a proffered blueprint of world-shaking events to follow, whether disastrous or redemptive. Once this germinal idea becomes public property, even for a substantial minority only, the hopeful type of apocalypse generates a lively feeling of expectancy amongst all sorts and conditions of men not privy to the specific hope of the minority. And this is clear in the Christmas birth story. The shepherds must have had some inkling, indeed some hope, that a great event was about to happen or they would have put the heavenly songs down to lack of sleep or the overtones of scraping bushes.

The journey of the eastern astronomers argues an even wider circle and even greater continuity for this general expectation. The genius of the whole story is that the peasants heard the message in their idiom while the scientists of the day saw clues in their more complicated textbook calculations and observations. Yet, whether led by hearing or sight, by music or stars, the ordinary worker and the recondite scientist were fellow pilgrims in a common quest. And somehow or another they

were led to a Bethlehem hotel with a "No Vacancy" sign on the front shutters.

Our Imaginative Limitations

Our modern mind is apt to balk at apocalypses. The psychologist will want to derive them from an inflamed imagination (though he will at the same time announce his own apocalypse where, if we go on training our children as we do, he will see three out of twenty shortly requiring hospital treatment for mental illness).

The objective scientist will shy away from them with even greater distaste. Yet it is observable to all that these very peers of the modern intellectual realm have come riding in on a fifth horse of the apocalypse of their own which is total destruction. And it is ironic that what the saints and martyrs could not do, the nuclear technicians have accomplished: namely, turn all of us into pacifists.

It should be, therefore, much easier for us to appreciate the force of apocalyptic visions than it was for our immediately preceding generations. Unfortunately, current forebodings are based on fear and spring from anxiety about human control of superhuman forces.

The religious expectations of the Jewish seers were guided by the notion of God in history. No matter what reverses engulfed the faithful remnant, one affirmation stood: God's ultimate purpose would prevail. There were, of course, variations on this theme. Some of them are implicit in the Scrolls from near the Dead Sea. And even though the event at Bethlehem did not meet any specific expectation, we may conclude that a goodly number hoped for One "to redeem Israel" and that in the birth of Jesus, no matter how or where it happened, this ubiquitous longing had been met by a mighty act of God. The nativity substituted hope and praise for fear, in the case of the peasants; and provided a great joy in the eastern visitors.

I wish Luke's eyewitnesses had been good enough to tell us if the shepherds met the wise men. Perhaps they did because we are told that "all who heard" the shepherds "wondered". This wonder introduces a most important by-product.

Many Rays in the Prism

As well as an intellectual conviction that a final answer to ultimate questions had arrived, there is in that barnyard scene also an unequivocal display of reverence. The actors in the drama *worshipped* at this unlikely shrine of a new hope. They were aware that here was a miraculous, awe-inspiring answer to their vague but persistent hope.

It may well be that in our frenetic rushing hither and thither we have lost or defaced this sense of awe. What formerly would have been regarded as a miracle is now a commonplace for high school physics. The mind that is plagued with puzzleheadedness is prone to stumble over the "miracle" in the nativity story. Some ill-advised people would make the acceptance of the event turn on the doctrine that it was miraculous. Both commit the same error, that of assuming that there is nothing miraculous in the commonplace or that there is nothing pedestrian in reputed miracles. When wonder and reverence are vulgarized by extraneous quibbling we all become heavy losers.

Another overtone in the story is that of committed action. The company present did not stand there in a static posture like so many of our Christmas illustrations. The husband had to do something in an emergency; the shepherds and the astronomers proffered their gifts; men said how pleased they were to pay worshipful hom-

Giorgione: "The Adoration".

age to the newly born child; the angels *sang;* and everybody *rejoiced.* This was happiness in *action!*

Infant Hope for the Elderly

It is worth noting that the story has still wider scope. For several months before and after the event elderly people were among the *dramatis personae.* If a child was at the centre, mature people were on the fringes. Zecharia and his wife Elizabeth were "advanced in years". Joseph has traditionally been regarded as much older than Mary. The shepherds and wise men were not exactly youngsters. The righteous and devout Simeon was at the very gates of death. Even an otherwise unknown Anna was 84 years old!

If the anniversary celebrations take on a pediatric interest in these days, I think we should observe that there were also some gerontological facets to the compressed and prismatic records of an undated event about the year 5 B.C.

Message to All Mankind

A compelling feature of the story to me is the cosmopolitan nature of the innyard group. No doubt the nomadic visitors had had their skin scorched to the color of a roasted chestnut. But color of the skin, which has led to such separation and hostility among races in later years of grace, was happily unnoticed by an innocent infant. Mary had included, in her magnificent hymn, all who feared—that is, had reverence for, or worshipped—Him, without restriction of race or geography. Simeon's valedictory specifically mentioned the Gentiles, or non-Israelites. The greatest foundation for universal fellowship in a united pilgrimage after decency is surely to be found in this Palestinian drama. It is a dreadful irony of history that so many of the lip-servers of that tiny child have shut out their fellow men on the basis of artificial segregations.

Past, Present and Future

What was the significance of all of this? In keeping with religious history it required the future to make this an eternal truth within a time-space event. If this happening tied in with the past, so also it got its validation from subsequent events. Christianity is, of necessity, an Easter religion. If there had been no Easter there would have been no Christmas story. We must look, therefore, to later answers.

The best answer, for me, is found in the most reflective writings in the gospels. If we have overemphasized the objectivity of Luke, the Gentile, we have underestimated the historical acumen of John, the Jew.

In trying to explain in Hellenistic terms the meaning of this great entrance of divinity into the circles of man's mortality John very early declared that "no man hath seen God at any time". He then points to the public demonstration of the adult Jesus. Here, at last, was a true working model of what God was like. He was filled with graciousness and truthfulness. Everybody who had seen or heard Him beheld His glory.

Many years later John had occasion to write a little love letter to some of his parishioners. Once again, and only here, do we hear that same sentence: "No man hath seen God at any time". But the conclusion now is not couched in some great theophany. He goes on to say: "If we love one another, God abides in us". Does this not mean that the witness of ordinary folk like you and me is the continuing vehicle of the Christmas revelation? If so, the season is not limited; it lasts all year.

This brings the manger story to the marketplace. It invites deep reverence, unqualified brotherhood, dignity for all human individuals anywhere, and asks for personal commitment. It raises the welfare problems of childhood, women's status, housing, old age, and oecumenical tolerance. Those of other faiths may not agree with our logic or our doctrines. This is their privilege and I share some of their misgivings. But I would hope that our witness to the decency and destiny of goodwill, justice and peace would at least win them to the idea that Christmas was a move in the right direction.

Tory Association meeting in Ottawa reflected unity of purpose and determination to prevail.

Convention Report:

The Tories Are In Good Heart

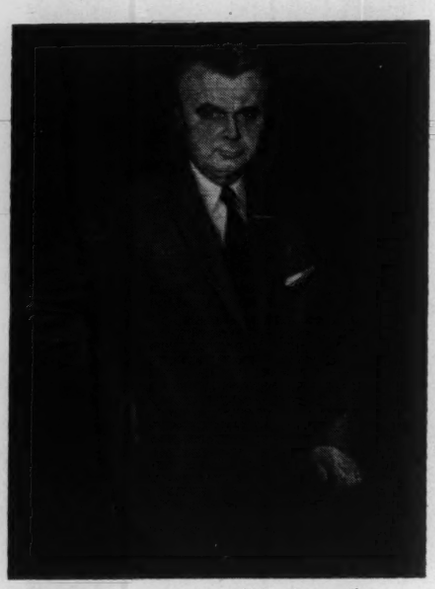
by Edwin Copps

Balcer: French-English amity restored.

THE TORIES ARE GOING to stay in power in Ottawa for a long, long time. The administration of Prime Minister John Diefenbaker (or his political heir, if need be) may very well beat the record 22-year run of their durable Liberal predecessors under Mackenzie King and Louis St. Laurent.

These seemed the logical conclusions to draw from the demonstration of Tory party strength and purpose seen in Ottawa early this month. The three-day meeting of the Progressive Conservative Association of Canada was the biggest political gathering of its kind ever held in this country. Even in their palmiest days, the Liberals never staged such a show of cross-country political strength and party unity.

Beforehand, the most optimistic esti-



Behind the curtains, life-size oils . . .

mate from Tory headquarters was that 1,500 might attend. Instead there were nearly 1,800 official registrations and scores more unregistered, but Tory-minded sightseers. The Tory tide filled all available space in the Capital's hotels, then overflowed into the homes of hospitable Ottawa party-liners. No ballroom in Ottawa's cavernous Chateau Laurier Hotel was big enough to hold all comers to the luncheons and banquets. Closed circuit television had to be put in operation to pipe pictures of head table proceedings in the main hall into auxiliary dining rooms.

Political party rallies approaching this one's size had been held in the past but they had always been full-scale national conventions, called either to select a new leader or to organize for an impending national election. There was no such pressing business on the agenda of this meeting. Certainly Leader John Diefenbaker, a fit and vigorous 64, is far from ready to step down. No election is near; the Tory Government's current term does not run out until 1964. Nor was there any urgent need to bolster the spirits of Tory workers; their party has never been in sounder shape, controlling the legislatures in five provinces (Ontario, Manitoba, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island) and holding an all-time record majority (208 of 265 seats) in the House of Commons.

Almost as surprising as the bumper attendance was the mood of the Tory meeting. It was serious, almost fervent. Perhaps their determined manner stemmed from the Tories' comparative newness in office or simply a case of profiting from others' mistakes. Whatever the cause, there were few displays of that brimming confidence that used to prevail at Liberal gatherings when that party was in power. The favorite Liberal convention sport was to heap scorn on their Tory rivals and ridicule their futility. But Tories concentrated on their own party affairs; they virtually ignored the Liberal opposition. Leader Diefenbaker got started on one brief anti-Liberal tirade, then checked himself. Said he: "We'll soon have an opportunity to debate with them in Parliament."

The main job of work to be done at the meeting was to renovate the national party organization. Tory strategists were well aware that their 1957 and 1958 election victories were more attributable to the personal magnetism of Leader Diefenbaker than to the appeal of the Tory party itself. While there is no sign that the Diefenbaker vote-getting magic has diminished and the man himself appears to be in excellent health, the party brass realized that it was reckless to pin all their future hopes on any one man. A committee was set up in January, 1959, to draft changes in the constitution of the party, redesign it to attract more people into the organization and give them scope to incorporate their ideas in party policies. Thus, it was reasoned, the Tory philosophy might be made as attractive to voters as the oratory of the Tory leader.

The new constitution was unveiled at the Ottawa meeting, first to a committee which made minor changes, finally to the full meeting, which passed it unanimously. Under the old rules, control of the party apparatus was in the hands of some 200 bigwigs who met in executive session from time to time, made decisions and passed the word to local organizations. The new constitution extends voting privileges to upwards of 1,400 party members, with most of the new voters drawn from the rank-and-file membership of local Tory organizations across the country. Instead of occasional meetings, this enlarged party directorate will meet annually when all 1,400-odd members will have a chance to air their opinions on party policies and leadership and to vote on all issues.

. . . in appreciation for party leadership.

"By taking this forward step," explained President Leon Balcer, "the Progressive Conservative Party becomes the first in Canada, and perhaps the world, to establish effective institutions to provide for annual review of its affairs by direct representation from its entire membership."

This democratization of the party machinery might have been accomplished before but for objections from within the organization. Party members in many of the more sparsely-populated ridings in the Far West and North always contended that they could not afford to cover the travel expenses of a local delegation to Ottawa every year. They feared that meetings would be dominated by delegates from nearer points (e.g. Ontario and Quebec) who could afford to make the short trip and that, as a result, these central province politicians would control the party. This financial problem is solved by the new constitution; delegates from

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Other objections to giving rank-and-file workers greater voice in party councils were raised in the past from various Tory leaders. Some of them feared that some radical member or half-drunk delegate would blurt out embarrassing criticism or idiotic ideas on the convention floor, exposing the party and its leadership to bad publicity and ridicule. Even at this love-feast convention, there was one such outburst. Norman Baker, an angry New Westminster, B.C., building contractor, interrupted one of the meetings (he was not an official delegate) to attack Tory Government policies. Baker called the celebrated Diefenbaker vision "a hallucination", said the Prime Minister was "quite inadequate as a national leader" and described Tory policy as "planned poverty for Canadians".

But John Diefenbaker already had let it be known that in order to promote greater rank-and-file participation in party affairs, he was willing to let even the most critical delegates speak their minds. "Even if your views seem radical, I ask you to put them forward," he told them. "Your resolutions are necessary for the maintenance of our party in power."

Not only the national machine but the individual constituency organizations of the Tory party will be democratized. The party has plans to set up active units in all 265 federal constituencies (240 are already in operation). The new constitution makes certain that all will remain active; to get recognition (and funds) from the national body, each riding association must meet at least twice a year and hold an annual meeting for free election of officers.

For as long as he chooses to hold it, the day-to-day job of running this nation-wide Tory machine will be handled by Allister Grosart, erstwhile Toronto advertising executive, now national director of the Progressive Conservative Party. Just prior to the Ottawa meeting, Grosart had been attacked by Liberal Leader Lester Pearson on a coast-to-coast TV hookup; Pearson's charge was that adman Grosart was applying "huckstering . . . soap-selling" techniques to national politics. In his opening speech to the convention and again at the closing banquet, Tory Leader Diefenbaker noted the opposition criticism and answered it with warm personal praise for the party's national director. "The fact that he is subject to criticism is in fact the greatest tribute that can be paid to his organizing abilities," said the PM. Then, turning to Grosart, he added: "You'll be here just as long as we can induce you to stay."

Indeed, if there was any truth to the charge that director Grosart was unduly dominating Tory policy-making, the fact was kept well-concealed during the Ottawa proceedings. Throughout, Grosart remained an unobtrusive figure in the deliberations, spoke only when he was called upon and then usually to minimize his own role in the party. "It has been my good fortune," said Al Grosart, "to have had available at all times the knowledge and generous co-operation of so many whose experience was greater and whose judgment better than my own."

The Liberal charge of excessive hucksterism by the Tories also was effectively answered by a late development in the convention business. The Tories' public relations committee brought in a report complaining that the party's publicity was inadequate and demanding that Tory staffers in Ottawa step up the flow of propaganda material across the country.

Had they deplored Grosart's skill as a convention organizer, the Liberals might have had a stronger case. The Ottawa meeting, managed largely by Grosart himself, went off as smoothly as a ballot slipping into a box. The opening day was set aside for the Young PC's and the women's organization, with the senior party officials moving in afterward for their weightier deliberations.

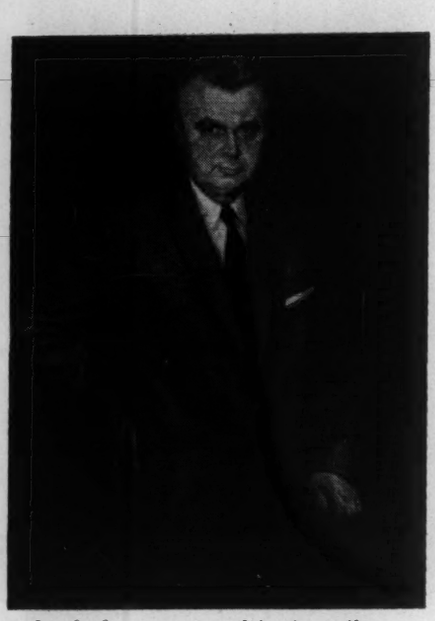
During the first day, a noisy battle raged through the hotel corridors and lobbies for the presidency of the Young Tories. Four candidates were in the fight, three of them Montreal lawyers and the fourth a 29-year-old insurance agent named Bennett Carr from Prince Edward Island. Candidates competed for attention with placards, bagpipers, snake-dances and speeches. But in the end it was political know-how that paid off; Carr was provincial campaign boss in the Tory victory in P.E.I. earlier this year and it was that experience that swung his victory on the second ballot. His name (he was called after Tory Prime Minister R. B. Bennett) may also have helped.

While the Tory youngsters whooped it up in one hall, the Tory women chatted and giggled through their agenda in another. Mrs. Harry Quart, of Quebec City, an experienced Tory organization woman and frequently a member of Canadian delegations to the United Nations, was named president. She took over from Miss Elizabeth Janzen, of Kitchener, elected four years ago. In a 2,500-word farewell address, Retiring President Janzen reviewed her four-year tenure, including a stock-taking of the gifts she had received while touring the country on party business.

"In looking around my home," she said, "I find many mementos. They include books, a brief case, an oil painting, a travelling clock, luggage, ceramics (floral and emblematic), Beleek and Royal Doulton china, beautifully-chosen jewelry and charms for my bracelet, Okanagan and Annapolis fruit, a Nova Scotian tartan scarf, coffee spoons to add to my collection, and many other articles."

There were indications that an even richer reward might be reaped by her successor, Mrs. Quart. In his speech to the Tory women, Prime Minister Diefenbaker announced that he would soon appoint a new group of senators to fill some or all of the seven vacancies in the Upper

Helping the conversion of Quebeckers to Toryism were bi-lingual speeches by Churchill, Fulton, Fleming and Hees.



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But John Diefenbaker already had let it be known that in order to promote greater rank-and-file participation in party affairs, he was willing to let even the most critical delegates speak their minds. "Even if your views seem radical, I ask you to put them forward," he told them. "Your resolutions are necessary for the maintenance of our party in power."

Not only the national machine but the individual constituency organizations of the Tory party will be democratized. The party has plans to set up active units in all 265 federal constituencies (240 are already in operation). The new constitution makes certain that all will remain active; to get recognition (and funds) from the national body, each riding association must meet at least twice a year and hold an annual meeting for free election of officers.

For as long as he chooses to hold it, the day-to-day job of running this nation-wide Tory machine will be handled by Allister Grosart, erstwhile Toronto advertising executive, now national director of the Progressive Conservative Party. Just prior to the Ottawa meeting, Grosart had been attacked by Liberal Leader Lester Pearson on a coast-to-coast TV hookup; Pearson's charge was that adman Grosart was applying "huckstering . . . soap-selling" techniques to national politics. In his opening speech to the convention and again at the closing banquet, Tory Leader Diefenbaker noted the opposition criticism and answered it with warm personal praise for the party's national director. "The fact that he is subject to criticism is in fact the greatest tribute that can be paid to his organizing abilities," said the PM. Then, turning to Grosart, he added: "You'll be here just as long as we can induce you to stay."

Indeed, if there was any truth to the charge that director Grosart was unduly dominating Tory policy-making, the fact was kept well-concealed during the Ottawa proceedings. Throughout, Grosart remained an unobtrusive figure in the deliberations, spoke only when he was called upon and then usually to minimize his own role in the party. "It has been my good fortune," said Al Grosart, "to have had available at all times the knowledge and generous co-operation of so many whose experience was greater and whose judgment better than my own."

The Liberal charge of excessive hucksterism by the Tories also was effectively answered by a late development in the convention business. The Tories' public relations committee brought in a report complaining that the party's publicity was inadequate and demanding that Tory staffers in Ottawa step up the flow of propaganda material across the country.

Had they deplored Grosart's skill as a convention organizer, the Liberals might have had a stronger case. The Ottawa meeting, managed largely by Grosart himself, went off as smoothly as a ballot slipping into a box. The opening day was set aside for the Young PC's and the women's organization, with the senior party officials moving in afterward for their weightier deliberations.

During the first day, a noisy battle raged through the hotel corridors and lobbies for the presidency of the Young Tories. Four candidates were in the fight, three of them Montreal lawyers and the fourth a 29-year-old insurance agent named Bennett Carr from Prince Edward Island. Candidates competed for attention with placards, bagpipers, snake-dances and speeches. But in the end it was political know-how that paid off; Carr was provincial campaign boss in the Tory victory in P.E.I. earlier this year and it was that experience that swung his victory on the second ballot. His name (he was called after Tory Prime Minister R. B. Bennett) may also have helped.

While the Tory youngsters whooped it up in one hall, the Tory women chatted and giggled through their agenda in another. Mrs. Harry Quart, of Quebec City, an experienced Tory organization woman and frequently a member of Canadian delegations to the United Nations, was named president. She took over from Miss Elizabeth Janzen, of Kitchener, elected four years ago. In a 2,500-word farewell address, Retiring President Janzen reviewed her four-year tenure, including a stock-taking of the gifts she had received while touring the country on party business.

"In looking around my home," she said, "I find many mementos. They include books, a brief case, an oil painting, a travelling clock, luggage, ceramics (floral and emblematic), Beleek and Royal Doulton china, beautifully-chosen jewelry and charms for my bracelet, Okanagan and Annapolis fruit, a Nova Scotian tartan scarf, coffee spoons to add to my collection, and many other articles."

There were indications that an even richer reward might be reaped by her successor, Mrs. Quart. In his speech to the Tory women, Prime Minister Diefenbaker announced that he would soon appoint a new group of senators to fill some or all of the seven vacancies in the Upper

Helping the conversion of Quebeckers to Toryism were bi-lingual speeches by Churchill, Fulton, Fleming and Hees.

Best bet for new Senate post: Women's president Mrs. H. "Josie" Quart (centre).

House. "And one of them," he added, "will be a woman." The rumor ran immediately that Mrs. Quart (John Diefenbaker calls her Josie) would be the appointee.

Election of officers of the senior Tory organization took place on the last day of the three-day meeting. There was no rush of candidates for the onerous presidency of the association and, from the outset it appeared that Senator Gunnar Thorvaldson, Winnipeg lawyer and industrialist, was the only taker. Some delegates had qualms about giving the presidency to a member of the party's parliamentary group, reasoning that a non-officeholder might make a stronger appeal to independent voters to join and work for the party. But this reservation was largely overcome by Thorvaldson's record as a grass-roots Tory campaigner. The senator is a seasoned politician, a veteran of federal politics in Saskatchewan and a former member (for two terms) of the Manitoba Legislature.

Besides political experience, Solly Thorvaldson has broad business connections, holds directorates or board chairmanships in a variety of life insurance, finance companies and manufacturing concerns in Western Canada. He is also a top-flight lawyer (twice president of the Manitoba Law Society) and a persuasive, easy orator. Senator Thorvaldson is a close personal friend of the Prime Minister, with whom he must work harmoniously on party affairs. He is also an old acquaintance of Mrs. Diefenbaker; they were classmates in Grade IX at high school out West.

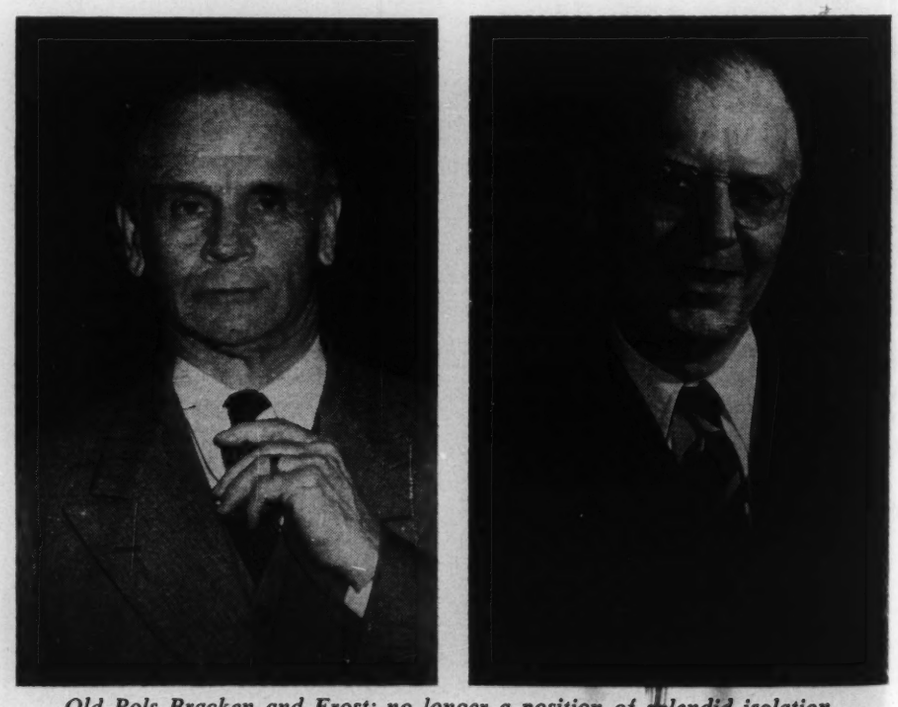
Senator Thorvaldson, who succeeds retiring President Balcer, was unanimously approved as Association president, as was the entire slate of new officers proposed by the meeting's nominating committee. The other top executives are as follows:

Vice-Pres. (French): Charles Pare, Montreal; Vice-Pres. (English): George Hogan, Toronto; Provincial Vice-Presidents: Ian Pyper, Vancouver; E. A. Geddes, Edmonton; Roy Hall, Prince Albert; Harry Pollock, Shoal Lake, Man.; E. A. Goodman, Toronto; Robert Perron, Quebec; Edison Stairs, Woodstock, N.B.; G. E. Whidden, Antigonish; Reagh Bagnell, Hunter River, P.E.I.; Malcolm Hollett, St. John's; Secretary: Ken Binks, Ottawa; Treasurer: T. H. Coffin, Halifax.

The smoothly-run executive elections substantiated the glowing claims of party unity made by the Tories in nearly all their speeches and in the bulk of their lavishly-printed propaganda brochures distributed to delegates. These dwelt heavily on the Tories' success in "restoring political unity to the Canadian nation." The reference, of course, was to the Tories' capture of 51 of Quebec's 85 seats in the 1958 election and the fact that for the first time since the Macdonald-Cartier era, the party now draws support from French- as well as English-speaking Canadians.

If any more evidence were needed than the 1958 returns to prove the conversion of many Quebeckers to Toryism, there was ample at this party get-together. *Alouette* was easily the most popular number at sing-songs in the Chateau halls and corridors. French was spoken almost as commonly as English at all sessions. In each of his speeches, Prime Minister Diefenbaker struggled through a long French text (and invariably drew laughter and applause when he ridiculed his atrocious accent). Four of the English-speaking Tory ministers (Finance Minister Fleming, Justice Minister Fulton, Transport Minister Hees and Trade Minister Churchill) had French inserts in their convention tâlks.

Another clue to English-French amity among the Tories was the obviously-improved relationship between Tory Boss Diefenbaker and Association President Leon Balcer, who doubles as Solicitor General in the Tory Cabinet. At the 1956 convention, Quebecker Balcer had opposed Diefenbaker's selection as party leader after Diefenbaker had failed to follow the custom of having his nomina-



Old Pols Bracken and Frost: no longer a position of splendid isolation.

tion seconded by a French-Canadian. Despite Balcer's later elevation to his minor post in the Cabinet, there were persistent rumors of ill will between the two men over what Balcer considered an affront to his compatriots.

If it ever was on, the feud is obviously over now. Leader Diefenbaker warmly lauded Balcer's work as president of the Conservative Association. And Balcer, whatever his reservations about Diefenbaker in 1956, made it clear that he is now a hearty supporter. Said Balcer: "In and out of the House of Commons, the Prime Minister has already proved himself to be one of the great Canadians of all time."

But the strongest indicator of all of Tory reconstruction in French Canada was the news brought to Ottawa by the Quebec delegates. En route to the capital, the Quebeckers had stopped off in Montreal, held a one-day convention of their own in the Queen Elizabeth Hotel and had set up a brand new Tory organization in their province. In the past, local Tory associations had been forced to operate mainly on their own, depended entirely on national party headquarters in Ottawa for guidance and funds. The new provincial organization will unite them and will make sure that a local Tory machine is in good working order in all of Quebec's ridings. National Tory planners made no secret of their pleasure about the Quebec development; a trumpet fanfare greeted the announcement at the Ottawa convention.

The social side of the Ottawa meeting ran off as smoothly as the business sessions. Breakfasts, luncheons and dinners each day were sponsored by a different group within the party (e.g. a Quebec M.P.s' breakfast, Western M.P.s' luncheon). All the functions were informal; the waiters wore the only black ties. With one exception, most of the host groups took a cue from Prime Minister Diefenbaker's non-alcoholic receptions at the P.M.'s residence and served coffee as the strongest beverage. The exception was the Ontario M.P.'s luncheon, where bars were set up in an adjoining room and cocktails served before the meal. Then, despite all the professing drys in the Tory ranks, the bartenders were kept feverishly busy.

The main social affairs of the meeting were the banquets each evening. The first of these, in honor of Tory cabinet ministers and provincial premiers, was so jammed with guests of honor that the head table stretched the full length and across one end of the vast Chateau ballroom. Ontario's Premier Leslie Frost, one of the guest speakers, drew attention to the array of successful Tory politicians around him. "Just four years ago," he recalled, "I was the only Canadian premier representing Macdonald's great party. Now I'm one of six. My position is no longer one of splendid isolation."

P.E.I.'s Bennett Carr captured leadership of Young P.C.'s on second ballot.

There were 27 speakers that evening, including four provincial premiers (Nova Scotia's Premier Stanfield, a flu case, could not attend) and 23 members of the federal cabinet. Each speaker was allotted three minutes and the majority hewed so well to the limit that all the oratory lasted less than an hour. Prime Minister Diefenbaker wound up the talkathon with an appropriate story about the Western politician who spoke so long that only one listener was left in the hall when he finished.

The politician rushed off the platform to thank his one-man audience.

"Don't thank me," the man protested. "The only reason I stayed is that I'm the last speaker."

The final banquet, closing the convention program, was a party tribute to leader Diefenbaker and Mrs. Diefenbaker. The speeches were more sentimental than political. The chairman, Association President Thorvaldson, recalled his school days with Mrs. Diefenbaker and his early political career in Western Canada when he and fellow Tory John Diefenbaker suffered repeated defeats while trying to win election to the Liberal-dominated Saskatchewan Legislature. Thorvaldson then called on another long-memoried Tory, John Bracken, former premier of Manitoba and leader of the federal Tory party until his retirement in 1949. Old Pol Bracken also reminisced about the political wars and the Tories' long struggle to succeed. The victory finally was won, he said, because the party had chosen John Diefenbaker as its leader. "Make no mistake about it," said the former Tory chief, "No other man could have accomplished what John Diefenbaker has done in the last three years."

Mr. Bracken drew back two blue silk curtains on the wall behind the head table and unveiled life-size oil portraits of the Prime Minister and Mrs. Diefenbaker. The paintings, done by British Artist George Lown, were gifts to the Diefenbakers from Association members. The Prime Minister thanked his fellow Tories for the gifts and told them, in the last of his six speeches: "As you return to your homes across Canada, you can report the nation in good heart."

John Diefenbaker might have added that the same could be said for the Tory Party.

A Christmas card designed by Kate Greenaway for Marcus Ward in London, England, in 1875.

The Fantastic History of the Christmas Card

by Marcus Van Steen

A REAL OLD-FASHIONED Christmas—that is what we all profess to want. But when it comes down to it most of our Christmas traditions, if they didn't start precisely today, originated within the past generation. And of all our modern Christmas "traditions" none is newer, or more vigorous for its age, than our indiscriminate distribution of Christmas cards.

So inextricably linked is the card with the season that for many Canadians the start of the Christmas celebrations comes with the drawing up of the Christmas card list, referring to last year's list to make sure whose names stay on and whose should be deleted.

This is a long way from the custom of our parents who, if they used Christmas cards at all, sent them only to relatives and very close friends. And it is even further from the thoughts of the creators of the first Christmas cards, who regarded them merely as little messengers bearing their kind thoughts and good wishes to those near and dear to their hearts whom they could not personally visit during the Christmas season.

This year some 150,000,000 Christmas cards have been produced commercially in Canada. In addition, several millions have been imported from Germany, England, the United States, and even Japan, where surely the Christmas message can have but little meaning. These figures, which work out to about 60 cards per family, show that the use of Christmas cards has been increasing steadily since the war, and has jumped fantastically since before the war.

Since 1937, while the population of Canada increased by about 50 per cent, the use of Christmas cards jumped fourfold. Evidence of this is given by the Post Office which, in 1937, doubled its sorting and delivery staff for about two weeks before Christmas, but nowadays, even with the help of mechanical sorters, finds it has to treble its sorting and delivery staff for the entire month of December. In many Canadian centres, the post office starts recruiting additional help well before the end of November.

What is regarded as the fore-runner of our modern Christmas card was designed and etched by a gay young man about London, J. A. Boerner, to apologize for his failure to make personal appearances at the homes of his friends on New Year's Day, 1812. Just what prevented Mr. Boerner from making the customary calls is not known, but his excuse, as depicted on his clever card, is that his cloak was caught in the locked doorway of his home. There were no words on the card, Mr. Boerner no doubt taking it for granted that his friends, as witty as himself, got the idea that he was in effect tied to his house.

Credit for the first genuine Christmas card goes to Sir Henry Cole, a busy missionary of culture for the masses and one of the earliest English friends of Prince Albert (who later sought his advice and collaboration in presenting the Great Exhibition of 1851). Prince Albert made his contribution to the cause of a gayer English Christmas by introducing the Christmas tree from his native Germany in 1840. In 1842 Dickens published *The Christmas Carol*.

Tassels were popular in 1880 period.

The following year Sir Henry decided that he too would do his part in spreading Christmas joy, but shrinking from the chore of trying to promote jollification by personal contact, he devised the idea of sending out a gay little missive to all his friends. For the design of an appropriate card to express Yuletide greetings Sir Henry called on his friend, John Calcott Horsely of the Royal Academy, better known as "Clothes-Horsely" because of his campaign against the use of nudity in art.

The result was a three-panel affair, the two smaller side panels depicting the Christian virtues of feeding the hungry and clothing the naked. In the larger centre panel, a large Victorian family is shown enjoying a holiday feast and toasting the absent friend with the words: "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you." In the lower right-hand corner appears the signature, followed by "Xmasse, 1843."

As so often happens, Sir Henry's innovation was not kindly received. Some of his more sensitive friends complained that the picture, by portraying people both young and old raising their glasses in a toast, was an incentive to drunkenness. Actually, to modern eyes the picture has more in it of a tea party at the Vicarage than of an Hogarthian orgy. However, the criticism apparently did no harm either to Sir Henry or to the idea of the Christmas card. The very next Christmas, 1844, saw a number of English gentlemen sending out their own greeting cards, notably the novel-writing Vicar of New-

castle, the Reverend Edward Bradley, and the Birmingham artist, W. A. Dobson, both of whom designed and hand-colored their cards for their relatives and friends.

The first Christmas card designed for sale to the public was designed and executed by a young London artist, William Egley, the son of a Victorian miniaturist. At one time it was thought his card was produced in 1842, when Egley was a mere 16 years old, but a microscopic examination of the small date in the lower right-hand corner would indicate that the date is actually 1848, when Egley, in spite of an early demonstration of quite considerable artistic talent, was starving in a Holborn garret and desperately in need of a few pence to keep body and soul together. It is to be hoped that his card enabled him to enjoy some measure of Christmas cheer. At any rate we know he lived long enough (he died in 1916) to see his idea of a Christmas greeting card adopted by nearly every Christian nation.

Egley's card was an elaborate one, showing a family Christmas dinner, a formal dance, skating, carollers, almsgiving, a Punch and Judy show, and other aspects of the Christmas of Sir Roger de Coverley

Canadian card, late 19th century.

and Charles Dickens, all intertwined with a mistletoe vine, rustic logs and other ornamental devices much admired by the Victorians. It bears the familiar message "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You", with "TO" and "FROM" spaces which show that, unlike the cards which preceded it, it was designed for use by others than the man who made it.

Some dozen years later, in the early 1860s, a large publishing company, Goodall and Son, started issuing cards for general distribution to the public, and it was ten years later that Christmas cards were printed in the United States. However, printing and lithographing processes had to become relatively cheap before Christmas cards could be regarded as available to all levels of society. This started to happen just before the first Great War, when large numbers of cards were being imported from Germany. But it was not until the 1920s that Christmas card publishing became big business in the United States and Canada.

An examination of Christmas cards since their inception is an interesting study of our varying attitudes towards Christmas over the years. In the early English cards,

First Christmas card, painted by John Calcott Horsely in 1843.

the most popular designs portrayed children—overdressed or undressed, but always idealized and artificially innocent. Next in popularity came birds, flowers, garden scenes, and scenes of Pickwickian revelry. What we regard as traditional Christmas motifs of winter landscapes or Christmas trees were rare until after the first Great War, and Father Christmas was almost entirely absent.

One English card produced by Goodall and Son in 1868 portrays a Father Christmas surrounded by children, but his appearance reminds one more of Scrooge's Ghost of Christmas Past than our modern Santa Claus. This jolly fat man, with his red suit, white beard, and hearty ho-ho-ho, was started on his way by Clement Moore's verses "A visit from St. Nicholas" which appeared in 1822, but in that poem he was a small, elfish figure who smoked a Dutch pipe and was more magical than human. As late as 1870 American magazine illustrators were depicting the Christmas saint as a stern-looking figure in long white robes, a pleasant-looking father-type with a wreath of holly, or an unearthly sprite with a large nose, hair streaming wildly from a large head, and nimble legs and feet.

Even when Francis Church was writing his "Dear Virginia" letter in the New York Sun in 1897 there was no general agreement about the appearance of the Santa Claus he maintained existed. And as late as the 1920s there was some difference of opinion about his character, many people declaring that he was not always jovial, but carried a cane and ashes for children who had not been good.

For a long time there was also much confusion as to whether Santa made his gift-bearing trip on December 5th, December 24th, December 31st, or January 6th. Even today a number of French Canadian families preserve Christmas as a holy day, carrying out the gift-giving and other merriment on New Year's Day. Twenty years ago it could have been said that a majority of French Canadians reserved their seasonal festivities for the first of the year. These have gradually been won over to the Christmas card habit by the use of religious symbols on the cards—something that was almost completely lacking in the earlier Christmas cards.

In fact, one of the most striking things about the Christmas cards that have appeared in the English-speaking world is that they have so rarely included any symbol connecting Christmas either with the Christian event it is supposed to celebrate or with the pagan festival that preceded Christianity. To the card-makers, and to the people who use them, Christmas remains either a family festival or an occasion to whoop it up. The cards today, as they have been from the start, are for the most part either sentimental, jolly, funny, sarcastic, or merely cordial.

With the trend definitely towards the use of cards, not only to salute old friends but to make new friends and customers, cards are becoming more and more a social phenomenon in themselves, divorced from Christmas even as a family holiday. Indeed a great many of them are used by people who take absolutely no part in the observance of Christmas either as a holiday or a holy day.

The Christmas card custom has developed and flourished in spite of criticisms and protests from the very start. Almost every year since Sir Henry Cole sent out his Yuletide greetings 116 years ago, someone has protested against this desecration of the Christmas spirit. However, the Christmas card has become such a fixture in our society that it is difficult to imagine Christmas without it. Indeed, it is easier to imagine the withering away of Christmas itself, leaving the cards as a meaningless survival, much as the Valentine card has survived the otherwise complete disappearance of St. Valentine's day as a date to be observed.

Second Prize Travel Essay

Lebanon: Crossroad of Continents and Civilizations

by David A. A. Stager

"My country hopes to create a second Switzerland." Proud tears came to the eyes of the stocky Arabian professor as he looked from the deep blue Mediterranean to the rugged Lebanese mountains. Just as proudly, an eleven-year-old Arab youth selling cold pop near the UNESCO headquarters told me that soon Lebanon would join the rest of Nasser's Arab world to form a real threat to both the West and the Soviet.

Both of these remarks provoked a greater curiosity in me and caused the length of my Lebanese tour to be doubled. After travelling 20,000 miles through fifteen countries in Europe and the Near East, I found this, the smallest country visited, to be the most intriguing.

As the plane taxied into Beirut's International Airport, I caught my first glimpse of Lebanon's stately umbrella pines clumped among the iron-red sand dunes. Then a camel caravan, plodding slowly under their bulky burdens near the runway, indicated that I was truly in the East.

In Beirut, the crossroads of continents and civilization, a visitor first heads for the Museum. The archaeological findings, neatly labelled, arranged, and described, assist one to plan a systematic tour of the ancient sites. The first key to our alphabet, the monuments to Ramses the Second, decorated jewellery of the Phoenicians, and the multi-colored colonnade of Herod the Great, are all here.

From the museum, I went to the renowned American University of Beirut. Founded in 1866, the University has the schools of Arts and Sciences, Medicine, Engineering, Commerce, and Agriculture, as well as the most modern hospital in the Near and Middle East. Beirut is also the home of the French University and the Lebanese University, recently established in the UNESCO building.

An introduction to the Cabinet Secretary of the Lebanese Parliament gave me an opportunity to discuss the country's political system and future. During the conversation parliamentarians passed by dressed in Western business suits, a fez and suit, or full Arabian dress and were speaking Arabic, French, and English interchangeably. (Arabic is the official language but French was used during the French Mandate, and English is gaining prestige quickly.)

Because most shop-keepers spoke English and/or French, shopping in the many colourful Oriental bazaars and souks was easy and fun. All prices to tourists were doubled or tripled, but light-hearted banter and bargaining brought the price within a reasonable range. Luxurious silk brocades, inlaid mother-of-pearl music boxes, brass and copper trays, and camel hide hassocks were but a few of the favorite purchases.

Wandering through the markets, with their pungent odors of Arab cooking in the air, whetted my appetite for a complete Arabian dinner. Strolling past nature's magnificent limestone monuments in the Bay of the Pidgeon Rocks, I found a restaurant with a view of the coast range down towards Sidon. The obliging waiter first brought a bowl of mashed chick peas and seasoning which one spreads on thin bread as a sort of hors d'oeuvres. This was followed by a large plate heaped with tender grape leaves stuffed with rice, chopped meat, and pine nuts: delicious fried egg plant—

Stately umbrella pines and contrasting architectural styles lend a note of charm to this street-scene in Beirut.

Jeeps of U.S. Marine Corps ranked before air terminal in Lebanese capital.

Modernistic apartment building is indicative of Lebanon's growth.

Lebanese, like these members of the irregular army, proved hospitable, friendly.

somewhat smaller and more flavorful than the North American type—and shish-kebab or cubes of lamb broiled on a spit over charcoal. The dessert was excellent. It was a deep bowl of sweet yogurt topped with a citrus honey and chopped pistachio nuts. A cup of Arabic coffee, a thick black, sweet brew served in miniature cups, completed the meal.

A Beirut publisher invited me to his summer home in the mountains for the afternoon. There, my friend explained that an over-population problem threatened Lebanon's economic future. There are practically no valuable minerals in the limestone mountains. (Limited quantities of low quality iron ore have been discovered since.) The forests are returning very slowly, and agricultural potentialities are nearly exhausted. Industrialization is increasing, but whether it can keep pace with the rapidly-growing population is doubtful. So far, Lebanon has been solving the problem through emigration. However, every attempt is being made to increase the productivity of the land through the creation of new arable sections and improvements in technological methods.

Our discussion ended with a lunch of the traditional thin Arabian bread and salty, goat's milk cheese. Then we drove another two thousand feet up the mountain-side to visit a new agricultural area where apples are cultivated. The face of the mountain was transfigured as rocks were pulverized manually and used to build terraces on which dwarf apple trees were planted. Among the rocks and clouds, the Lebanese farmers were producing abundant crops from varieties which are still in the experimental stage in Canada, and were using production methods for tomatoes that were introduced in our country only three years ago.

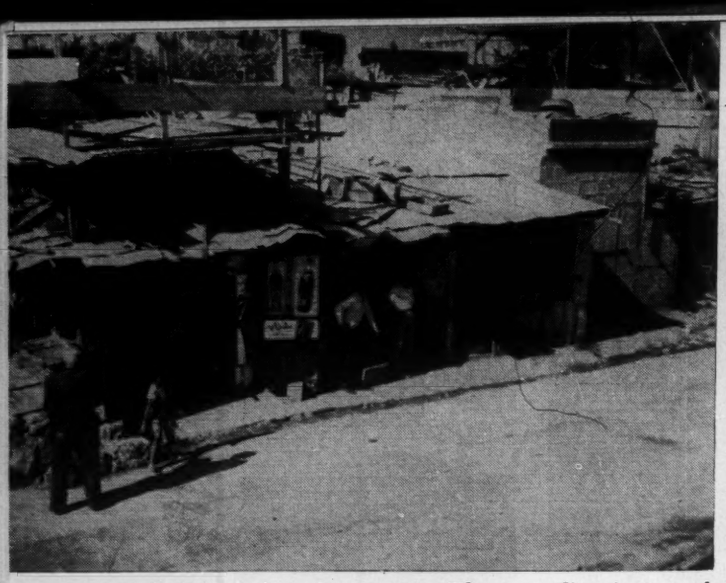
Next morning, as usual, there was not a cloud in the sky as the bus rumbled along the twenty-five miles to Byblos. Usually tourists use the limousine service for long-distance travel, but a bus-ride is an experience no adventurous tourist should miss.

Our pre-war model was equipped with a radio playing ecstatic Arabian music. However, the sound was nearly lost in the din of chickens clucking, pigeons cooing, cocks crowing, and young goats bleating. A farmer's family of eight with all of their belongings was moving to a coastal village. The buses apparently have no regular schedule, but rather depart when a pay-load is on board or the driver tires of waiting. Our driver stopped frequently to get a sandwich or a drink, and even allowed a passenger-friend to take the wheel. We were also stopped three times to be searched for arms and ammunition by the military police and once more by an accident which caused a half-mile traffic jam.

I welcomed this last stop enthusiastically for it was near the world's most famous outdoor museum of ancient records, the Dog River gorge. On a cliff beside the road are carved historical records of all the different conquerors who passed that point, from Ramses the Second in 1300 BC to the present ages. There are nineteen different inscriptions in hieroglyphics, cuneiform, Greek, Latin, Arabic, French, and English. The latest is in Arabic commemorating the final evacuation of foreign troops on December 31, 1946.

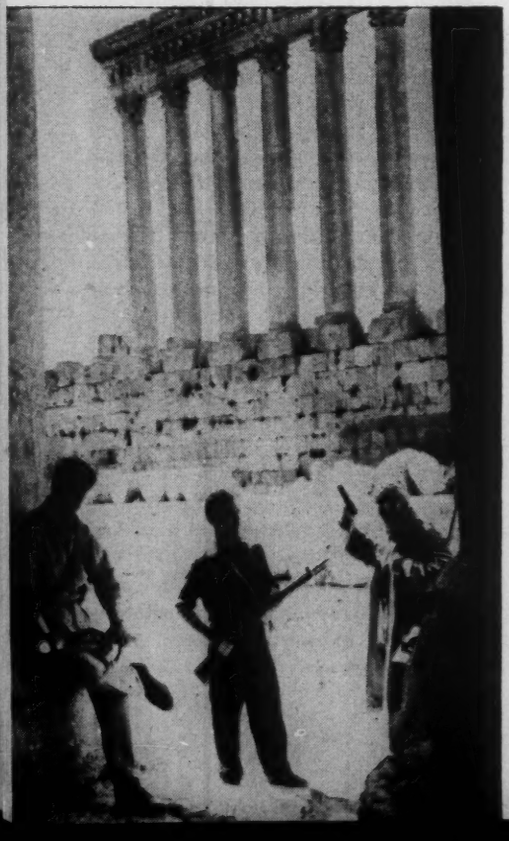
During the remainder of the trip we passed luxuriant banana and citrus groves, rocky ledges extending over the pounding sea, farmers tilling with teams of black oxen, and flocks of long-haired goats pasturing on the rest of the coastal plain.

And then Byblos—the fondest of my Lebanese memories. According to tradition, Byblos is the oldest continuously inhabited town in the world. The god, El, whom the Greeks identified with Chronos, was said to have lived there from the beginning of time. As early as 4000 BC, Byblos was the commercial and religious centre of the Syrian coast, over-shadowing the two great Phoenician cities of Sidon and Tyre.



Beirut is a city of contrasts. The poor live in crowded slums; the rich in airy, ultra-modern homes and apartments.

From the centre of the excavated area, I could see the monuments of seven historical periods — the Amorite, Hyksos, Egyptian, Phoenician, Greek, Roman, and Medieval—surrounded by the unearthed city walls of each period. The dominating ruin is the Crusader Castle of the 12th and 13th centuries with its central keep and four surrounding towers. Beyond the castle are the monumental substructures of the royal palace compound and the Middle Bronze Age obelisk temple. Then one descends from the castle, and climbs the few ancient steps to the Phoenicians' royal necropolis. From well-tombs, a type scarcely found elsewhere, archaeologists have raised the sarcophagi of Phoenician kings, including that of King Ahiram of the 11th century BC on which is inscribed the earliest alphabetic script known. Finally, our word "Bible" is derived from ancient reference to the fine *Byblos* paper produced in the area.



The bus returned to Beirut just in time for me to get a "service"—a five-passenger taxi—to Baalbek lying on the other side of the Lebanon range. Shortly after beginning the descent towards Baalbek one suddenly saw the whole Bekaa plain spread out in the brilliant Eastern sun like a patch-work quilt.

The Bekaa Valley was once the great granary of Rome. For that, organized irrigation and large-scale farming were necessary. Under Turkish rule, the system collapsed and the Valley sank back into unproductive poverty. Today the Bekaa is, in parts, not unproductive but the irrigation schemes now being planned should increase its fruitfulness greatly — perhaps to a level close to that of eighteen centuries ago.

One cannot fully appreciate the grandiose architecture of the Romans until one visits Baalbek. Here, hundreds of miles from Rome, the largest temple ever built still exudes a sense of power, size, and glorious magnificence. Baalbek was first built as a pagan religious centre, but the city became famous throughout the Mediterranean world when the Phoenicians built a temple in honor of their sun god, Baal. Later, the Roman Emperor Augustus established a colony here and ordered the Temple of Jupiter to be built.

The Temple was erected on an artificial base enclosed by huge hand-cut stones which were so placed that not even a knife blade can be thrust between them. Modern engineers and archaeologists marvel at the feat and cannot explain how the Romans manoeuvred the stones into place. Six pillars, each sixty-five feet high, the tallest in the world, still stand as silent ambassadors from an ancient world.

The rugged grandeur of the Temple of Jupiter is complemented by the disciplined luxuriance of the nearby Temple of Bacchus. The main gate of the Temple is considered to be one of the finest examples of ancient architecture. Its lintel and frieze are elaborately decorated with engraved pearls, interlaced vine branches and ivy leaves, ears of corn and poppies, Pan, Satyrs, and Bacchantes. For four years, the International Festival of Baalbek, featuring world-famous artists in the fields of music, theatre, ballet, and folklore, has been presented in these floodlit, enchanting ruins.

Another tourist "must" is the Cedars of Lebanon grove. These cedars of the "Lord" from which wooden boats and coffins were made for the first Dynasty Pharoahs of Egypt, and later Solomon's Temple and Palace, are undoubtedly Lebanon's most precious possession. There remains a grove of only four hundred trees —the last survivors of the venerable giants of ancient history. For the sportsman, there is nearly year-around skiing at the Cedars.

The Lebanese were particularly interested in Canadians but their hospitality —unsurpassed in the rest of the Arab bloc—seemed to be offered equally to every nationality. Theirs is a heterogeneous race; and being in direct and continuous contact with the West, their Arab customs have become mingled with Western patterns, especially along the coast. Traditionally, the Lebanese have been, and still are, the small traders, shopkeepers, and moneylenders of the region. (In no other country visited was it easier to cash a traveller's cheque.) A statistical look at the social conditions shows that the literacy rate is 85%, the annual per capita income is $327, and there is one physician for every 1250 persons. Thus, the Lebanese are in a better social position than the rest of their Arab neighbors.

Finally, it is *certain* that Lebanon will be for some time a land of intriguing contrast, where alongside a 1959 Cadillac you may see a barefooted man peddling bananas from his donkey. It is quite *uncertain*, but of vital concern to the West, whether Lebanon will become another Switzerland or a key nation in Nasser's Arab world.

Roman ruins at Baalbek include largest temple ever built, provided haven for rebels during the fighting in 1958.

Christmas Competitions

THE CROSSWORD, Puzzler and Chess problems overleaf are all competitions. The closing date for all entries is midnight, January 10 and the sender of the first correct solution of each to be opened on January 18 will receive the prizes mentioned below. Results will be announced in the February 6th issue.

Puzzler: A copy of Lancelot Hogben's *Mathematics for the Million* will be the prize for the first correct full solution. It is pointed out that a complete and detailed theoretical solution is needed to qualify, as opposed to a mere "answer" which might have been found by some process of trial and error. The envelope should be clearly marked *Puzzler Competition.*

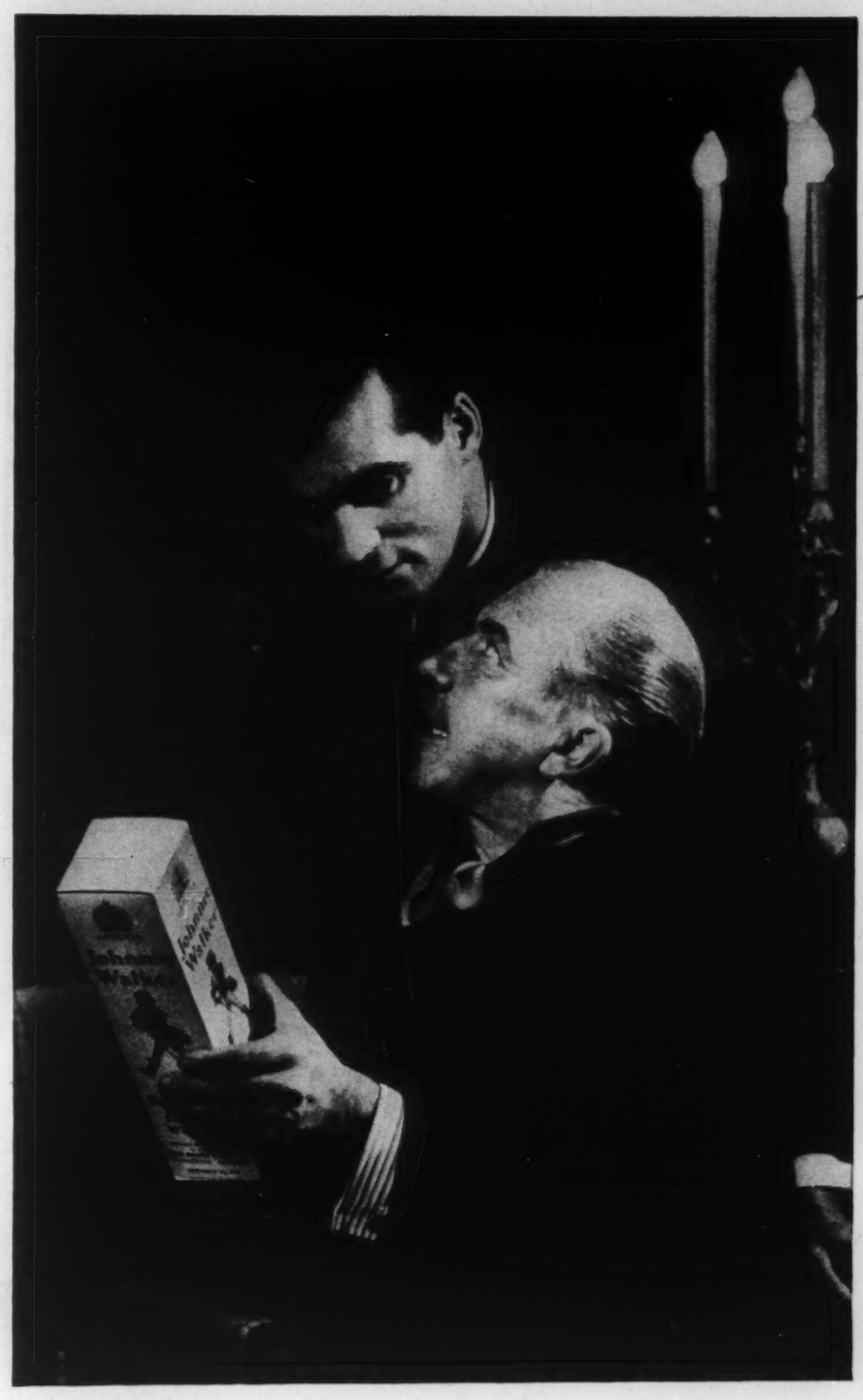
Crossword: A copy of the Shorter Oxford Dictionary will be given to the first correct solution opened. All entries should be legibly filled in with ink and marked on the envelope *Crossword Competition.* A separate sheet of paper with the entrant's name and address must be clipped to the completed crossword.

Chess: For the first correct solution opened a book chosen from a list supplied by D. M. LeDain will be given. Mark the envelope *Chess Competition* clearly in the top left hand corner.

Literary Competition: Five hundred years ago Chaucer addressed this lament to his empty purse:

To you, my purse, and to non other wight
Compleyne I, for ye be my lady dere!
I am so sorry, now that ye be light;
For certes, but ye make me hevy chere,
Me were as leef be leyd upon my bere;
For which unto your mercy thus I cry:
Beth hevy ageyn, or elles mot I dye!

A prize of a ten dollar book voucher will be given to the best such complaint in a modern poetic idiom. Modern may be taken to include T. S. Eliot, the beatniks, Ogden Nash, Irving Layton, or any of the angry or less angry post war young men.



Good judgement comes with experience... and Johnnie Walker Scotch proves your judgement

Born 1820—still going strong

Chess

by D. M. LeDain

SURPRISE PACKETS! World champions dispense holiday cheer.

White: Rodzinski, Black: Dr. A. Alekhine.

1.P-K4, P-K4; 2.Kt-KB3, Kt-QB3; 3.B-B4, P-Q3; 4.P-B3, B-Kt5; 5.Q-Kt3, Q-Q2; 6. Kt-Kt5, Kt-R3; 7.KtxBP, KtxKt; 8.BxKtch, QxB; 9.QxKtP, K-Q2!; 10.QxR, Q-QB5; 11.P-B3, BxP!; 12.PxB, Kt-Q5!; 13.P-Q3, QxQP; 14.PxKt, B-K2!; 15.QxR, B-R5 mate.

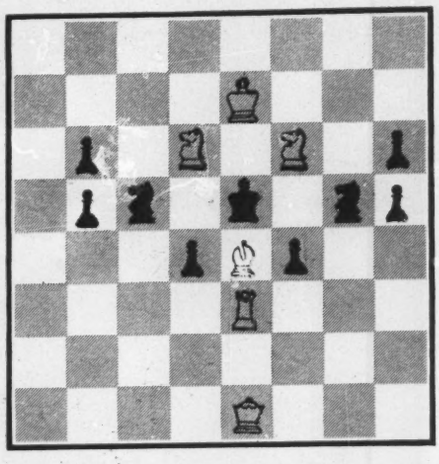
White: Dr. M. Euwe, Black: R. Loman. 1.Kt-KB3, P-Q4; 2.P-B4, P-Q5; 3.P-QKt4, P-KKt3; 4.B-Kt2, B-Kt2; 5.Kt-R3, P-K4; 6.Kt-B2, B-Kt5; 7.P-K3!, Kt-K2; 8.PxP, PxP; 9.P-KR3, BxKt; 10.QxB, P-QB3; 11. P-KR4, Castles; 12.P-R5, R-K1; 13. Castles, P-R4; 14.RPxP, KRPxP; 15.Q-KR3, PxP; 16.KtxQP!, BxKt; 17.Q-R8ch!, BxQ; 18.RxB mate.

White: N. N., Black: Dr. Em. Lasker. 1.P-K4, P-K4; 2.Kt-KB3, Kt-KB3; 3.KtxP, Kt-QB3; 4.KtxKt, QPxKt; 5.P-Q3, B-QB4; 6.B-KKt5, KtxP!; 7.BxQ, BxPch; 8.K-K2, B-Kt5 mate.

Solution of Problem No. 233, (Ellerman), Key, 1. Kt-Q7.

Problem No. 234, by A. F. Mackenzie (The Christmas Tree).

White mates in two. (6 + 9)



Puzzler

by J. A. H. Hunter

"THAT'S GOOD of you and Pat," said Bob, picking up the little photo on his colleague's desk. "But who's the handsome man there?"

Ted smiled. "Why, that's my son," he replied. "Peter. Maybe you'll meet him now he's back home for a while."

Bob examined the photo more closely. "I'll have to take your word for it." He laughed. "But you must have started young!"

"Come now," Ted protested. "The cube of Pat's age is the difference between the squares of Peter's age and of mine, so you see he's not so old."

"Not much logic in that argument." Bob told him. "Just words."

"Okay then." Ted sighed. "My age is exactly in the same ratio to Peter's as his is to Pat's."

Ted had taken the three ages in complete years, but Bob never did manage to figure them out.

Can you do so? (116)

And the Same to You!

by Louis and Dorothy Crerar

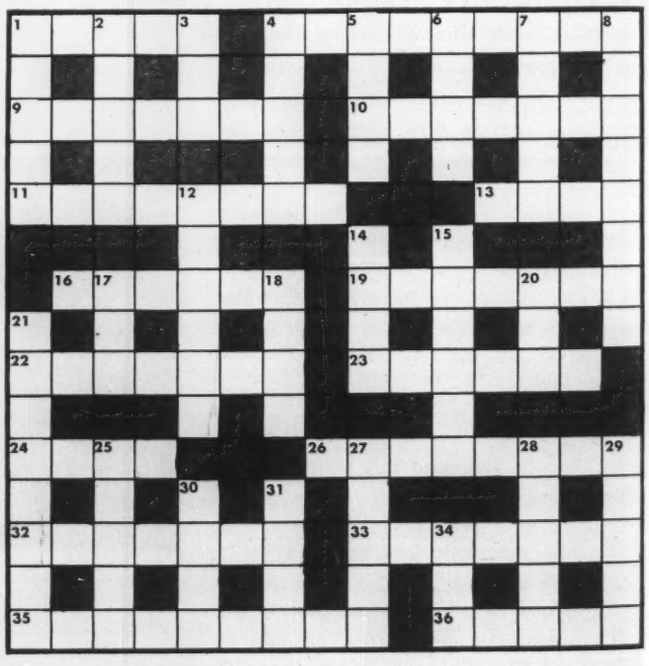
See Preceding Page for Competition Rules and Prizes

ACROSS

1, 4 Australians wouldn't dream of having one. (5, 9)
4, 36 Some pine, perhaps, to be all spruced up at this season. (9, 5)
9, 26 Our greeting, by being incomplete, extends to the ladies also. (3, 4, 3, 5)
10 Stipulation made by a V.I.P. or so it may appear. (7)
11 Yet this is ahead of time for the time being. (8)
13 Sounds like how mothers feel when 4A this is over for the kids. (4)
16, 25 It's at your service Christmas Day if you attend 16. (And no monkey business!) (6, 5)
19 A change of one mill in your taxes could be one! (3, 4)
22 What are you doing with parcels Christmas morning! (7)
23 Behold! Fifty went ahead and flopped. (6)
24, 14 A natural sequel to peace on earth. (4, 4)
26 See 9
32 Part of this fuel will ignite, it's plain to see. (7)
33 She transformed a role on the operatic stage. (7)
35 Monarch who looked out for himself at the feast. (9)
36 See 4A

DOWN

1 If they're not forthcoming your work has been all for nothing. (5)
2 This country is evidently not out to raise assistance. (5)
3 It must follow 4A to occur just before 4A. (3)
4 One who does must repair the crate. (5)
5 For that Christmas tie? (4)
6 Needed for a 1A, 4A. (4)
7 Principal State, by the sound of it. (5)
8 The 4A one is certainly not out on a limb 4A, 3. (8)
12 He monkeyed with our ancestors but was seen to win in the end. (6)
14 See 24
15 M.O.s are up and around all upset in the ski-race. (6)
17 This den may not be found easily. (3)
18, 30 "It's . . . . . I struck", as Big Ben might remark at midnight, Dec. 31. (4, 4)
20 The month they mis-spelt her name out west? (3)
21 A short chimney journey for Santa at this residence. (8)
25 See 16
27 Looks like a flirt! (5)
28 It's her turn around on the river. (5)
29 See 34 (5)
30 See 18
31 See 34 (4)
34 "Ring . . . , wild 31s to the wild sky!—Ring in the thousand 29 of peace!" (3)



Solution to last puzzle

ACROSS

1 Square meal
6, 28 Food-stuff
10 Pea soup
11 Avocado
12 Era
13 Salad
15 Degas
16 Deceive
18 Red Sea
21 Upsets
23 Bestows
27 By air
28 See 6
30 Rye
31 Advance
32 Cornice
33 Dude
34 See 17

DOWN

1 Supper
2 Unaware
3 Roots
4 Map
5 Awards
7 Oranges
8 Doomsday
9 Cold meat
14 See 19
17, 34 Eat, drink and be merry
19, 14 Cupboard-love
20 Menu
22 Starved
24 Warrior
25 Astern
26 Celery
29 Forum
32 Cob (483)

Letter from New York

by Anthony West

Hope versus the Christmas Scene

YOUR SOMEWHAT Scrooge-like New York correspondent finds the onset of the great orgy of compulsive buying and spending which has moved in on Christmas discouraging and depressing. It is not that he is that sour, or really that much like Scrooge, but he has strong feelings about Christmas, even though he is not a Christian. The festival existed before the Christians got at it and they only changed its meaning very little. The babe in the manger at Bethlehem is the Christ if you want him to be; if you don't, he is the reborn year, and if you don't want him to be that, then he is birth, renewal, joy and the sign and symbol of our delight and wonder at being alive and conscious of the marvel of the universe.

I am a northerner and my Christmas is partly a childhood memory of a flashing and joyful break in the long haul of a dark winter. It was the turn of the year and it brought a lifting of the heart. It was only right to celebrate it by bringing families together, by giving parties that were cheerful, gay, and inconsequent, and by going to those religious services at midnight and midday at which we all sang together and were serious together to express our profound reverence for life itself, and for ourselves as the channels for its renewal.

I was always deeply stirred by the idea of the three Kings kneeling beside the child's crib, because it seemed to me to be a symbolic enactment of something intensely important, though I only dimly adumbrated what that was. I slowly came to realise that what they had been brought to by the star was just what it appeared to be, a woman and new born child, and that they are jointly to be worshipped because without them all human achievement, knowledge, and experience would be meaningless. The child in the crib, for me anyway, is all man's future, and everything mankind has so far done which is positive and valuable has been done for him.

So Christmas has its secular but none the less sacramental meaning for me, and in the child, the woman, and the star-crowned tree of life I see embodied all man's desire to do good, and all his hopes of leaving his brutal and degraded past behind him. And for a little while I can rejoice that with his terrible record of murder, rapine, and fine things made only to be savagely destroyed, he can still dream as finely as he does and hope to make his dreams realities.

But while I write these words Christmas is still some way off and we here in New York are in the full throes of the big build-up for the splurge the festival has become. You have probably read about the solid gold putter Tiffany's advertised as a joke in the *Wall Street Journal,* at $1,497. This object had been made to special order, and Tiffany's had only one of them. But they were soon receiving orders for many more. Presumably these won't be given to children, just to fools by vulgarians. But the replicas of model T Fords, capable of up to ten miles per hour, and costing merely $395, will be given to the boys of eight or so for whom they have been designed. And there will be lucky, if that is the word, little girls who get the sick doll who comes with crutches, plaster casts for all the major fractures, and, believe it or not, transfers by means of which she can be given various rashes, small pox, measles, and so on. These can be removed with warm water so that the sick doll can then be said to have recovered. This morbidity isn't a new thing. I've seen a Victorian doll from England, dressed all in white satin with a greenish wax face, who came in a little satin-lined coffin. But the sick doll is not a rarity, as that extraordinary object was, she is a mass produced object, for whom a big sale is expected.

Sick dolls, swords and six shooters.

Toys for Christmas as proof of love?

Along with the sick doll I noticed a tremendous collection of weapons. I have no cranky objection to small boys pretending to be Robin Hood, or Lancelot, or Sergeant York for that matter, and I don't want to see toy swords, bows and arrows, six shooters, rifles and even water pistols or ping pong ball machine guns done away with. But I was taken aback by the variety and the sinister looks of a number of imaginary weapons the children were to be thrilled with on Christmas morning. They seemed to me to be rather unnecessary stimulators of imaginary fears when one considers how many things a modern child already has to worry about.

But I came away from my look at the toy departments of the big stores with an overwhelming impression not of the coarse designs and the rather brutal imagination shown in most toys on offer, but of the fantastic sums of money people were spending on them. It struck me that something odd was involved. I suspected that it might be a profound sense that children would be sceptical of protestations of affection and love as such, and that the showy and costly presents were designed to provide convincing evidence that the givers really did mean something when they said they loved their children.

While I was mulling over this notion I came on a somewhat spooky report on the American child drawn up by the Federal Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Among other things this disclosed that a great many American girls now start to use lipstick between the ages of nine and eleven, and that they do so with full knowledge and approval of their parents. But this is only one of many details in a curiously leaden-toned and sinister picture. Most of us have in our minds school coming-out as a kind of explosion of natural vitality—the children literally burst out of the doors of the schoolhouse and run off to home and happiness.

But for an awful lot of American children nowadays it just isn't so. If they do go hustling off home there isn't anyone there. Father isn't back from work, and

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Here is a completely new concept in luxury cars. The Ambassador is the peak in comfort and luxury, yet its compact dimensions make it a genuine pleasure to drive and park. Gone is the awkward, over-sized exterior appearance so common to the so-called luxury car field. Ambassador has done away with the excessive weight, width and length that create a false impression of luxury. In the Ambassador you have a true luxury car—the perfect combination of styling, comfort, ease-of-operation and controlled expense.

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AMBASSADOR—*Another Great Success Car from American Motors*

mother isn't either. The place is empty and silent. And what's more, it is frightening. The report shows that the children hang about the schools and talk to their teachers because they feel lonely, and that one of the things they talk about is fear. They're afraid to be alone at home because they are scared that strangers with weapons will break in and hurt them, and the weapons they are afraid of are the guns they see so much of on TV and as toys, and the knives that are sold to children in such vast numbers.

There is another fear they talk about to their teachers which is of a different kind. Very large numbers of them live in constant fear that one or other of their parents will lose employment. It is worst if the father does, because then the whole family may be uprooted. The father is likely to move off to a new place to get work in his own specialty, and then the child will find himself a stranger in a world without landmarks. These fears are quite commonly found in children of eight and nine, and the suggestion made by the report is that they are becoming commoner.

When I'd finished digesting this information I began to wonder if it didn't contain at least the germ of a clue to the hysterical and compulsive character of the shenanigans we get into every year at about this time. Another clue was contained, or so I thought, in something else that came up about the same time. The New York City authorities have had to issue new specifications governing the permitted sizes of window openings in schools. Big sheets of glass are out. And so are unshielded windows. Every school is being, in the next few months, turned into something between a bird cage and a jail.

This is because two New York school districts have early this year had to fork out more than four hundred thousand dollars on replacing broken windows smashed by teenage hoods who are either in school or who have just left it. These are frightened and lonely children who have grown up to become hostile young delinquents. They represent a social and personal failure which I think we try to hide from ourselves at this time of year by over-gorgeous demonstrations of how much rather we would succeed in making children feel loved and confident of their future, if we only knew how to do it. But there we are. This is the society of anxiety and competition on which the measure of a man is his capacity to earn and spend. So the festival of love and joy and hope becomes the festival of spending, and we reap as we sow.

But the child is born again every year in innocence and beauty, the star shines clear and bright at the top of the tree, and we see again, as every year, that things need not be like this, and will not always be.

Wiser's ... WHEREVER ... WHENEVER

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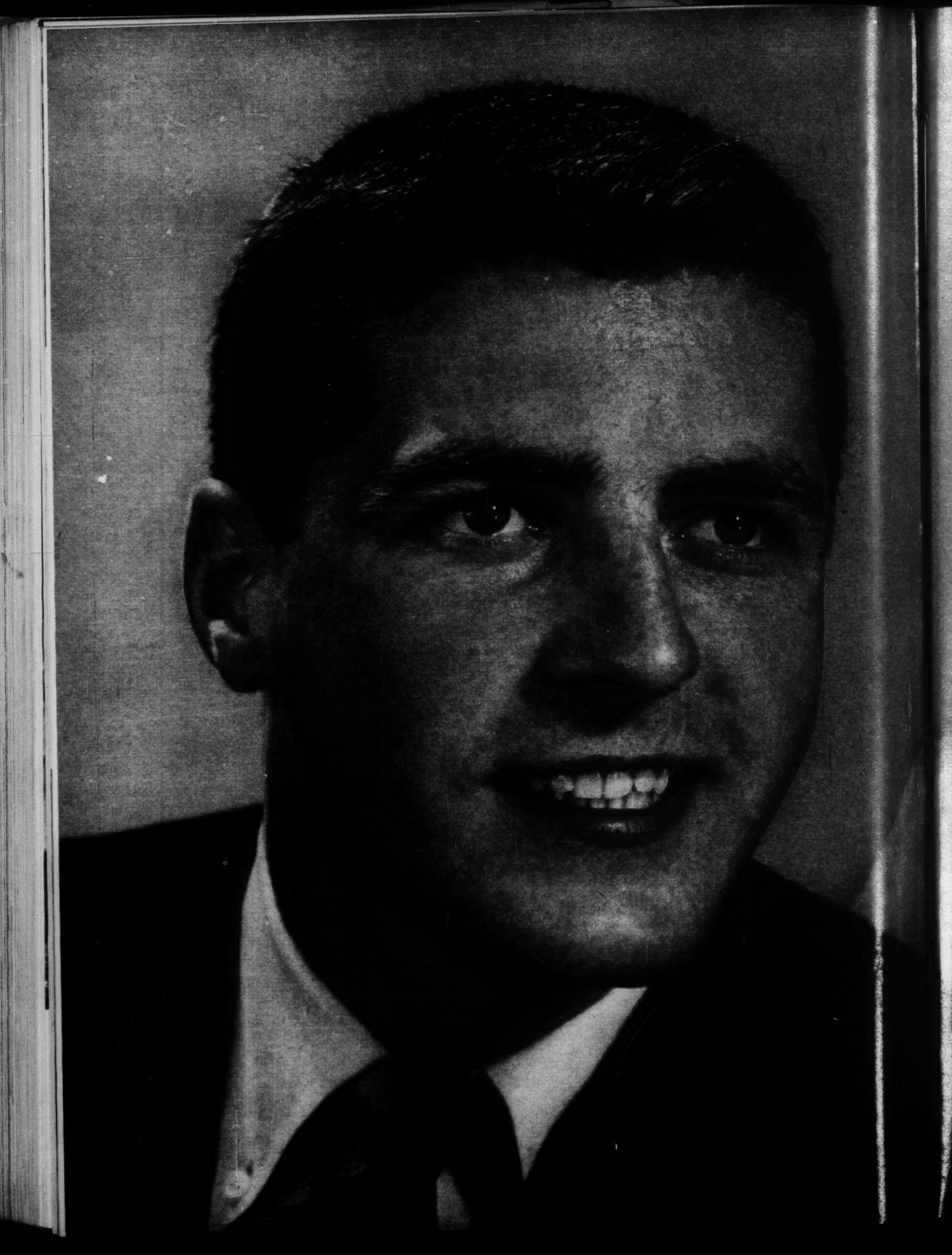
The deluxe whisky you can depend on... *always*

Wiser's
DE LUXE
Canadian Whisky
AGED 8 YEARS
IN WOOD



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... at Continental

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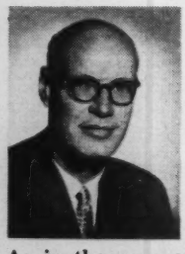
CRANE LIMITED chooses Canadian magazines

The prime market for Crane's beautiful coloured fixtures is in all new home construction. Mr. J. D. Webb tells why his company embarked on the current campaign designed to help builders sell more homes by making the prospective home owner aware of the advantages of home ownership, and why his company chose Canadian magazines to carry this promotion.

"When Crane Limited designed a promotion to tell prospective home owners the advantages of home ownership, and thus stimulate the sale of the 150,000 homes being built this year... experience told us there was no better way to reach this selective audience than through the Canadian magazines.



"Years of consistent advertising in Canadian magazines have proved to Crane the important influence of these books in the home. They offer the right background in which to present our sales message to homebuilders and home owners, and have helped to establish firmly the quality and desirability of Crane products in the public mind."

J. D. Webb Manager, Advertising Department, CRANE LIMITED.

As in the case of many other leading manufacturers, Crane Limited has consistently used Canadian magazines to build the quality image of its products. No other medium combines so many effective factors... nation-wide influence... leisurely reading... long life... fine colour reproduction... and magazines reach the able-to-buy homes at relatively low cost. Consult your magazine representatives, or write to us.

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THE ADVERTISING BUREAU OF CANADA

21 Dundas Square Toronto, Canada

The Business Problems Christmas Brings

by R. M. Baiden

Spectacular window displays lure shopping thousands, but amid the gift-seekers are those with larceny in their hearts who believe it's better to take than to receive.

"DO WE LOSE STUFF? Sure we do. Last Christmas we had TV sets taken from right in front of the store. This year we moved everything inside. So we probably won't lose any more TV sets. But maybe now we won't sell as many either."

The manager of the large metropolitan discount house was sounding off on one of the retail trade's most persistent Christmas problems—pilfering. In his own way he was also stating a simple maxim of business and industry: At Christmas, everyday problems balloon to truly horrendous proportions.

For the fact is that this Christmas—predicted as the biggest ever for business—will doubtless also produce the biggest ever headaches and ulcer eruptions. Mind you, this does not mean that businessmen are all for doing away with Christmas—or even all for taking the dollar signs off Santa Claus—but it does mean they pay a price for the pleasure of cajoling potential customers into the proper spirit.

And once in the proper spirit, Canadians inflict mayhem on the delicate balance of their country's economy: They push, shove and pilfer their way through stores; stay away from work to celebrate; rush bus, train and air services to distraction; decide they don't really like a good proportion of the merchandise they bought, or were given; and finally, often discover they can't afford to pay for what they do like.

In truth, then, there are a lot of facts about Christmas which just don't square with the common notion of tinsel, tinkling bells and happy faces.

Look a bit more deeply into the matter of Christmas pilfering. The Retail Sales Audit Systems Ltd. estimates that shopkeepers will lose some $48 millions worth of pilfered articles this Christmas season. This—a tidy sum—equals about three per cent of total expected Christmas sales. Considering that this three per cent comes "off the top", it represents a much higher percentage of gross profit.

Who pilfers? Statistically, just about anybody is a potential shoplifter although men are more to be suspect than women. Although no national figures for pilfering are available (many cases are never reported to the police), statistics for petty theft are. These show that in 1956—the last year for which complete figures have been issued—there were more than 9,000 cases. Of this total, 8,400 involved men and 700 involved women. Almost half the female thieves were housewives. As a group, housewives formed 3.4 per cent of the overall total. Male laborers and construction workers as a group accounted for 33 per cent.

But there is one major pilfering problem which does not show in any available statistics. That is the incidence of juvenile shoplifting. Major department stores are the principal targets for juveniles and they, in turn, have developed special procedures to handle juvenile cases.

Department store officials estimate that juvenile theft now accounts for at least 20 per cent of the total and is increasing rapidly. The juveniles themselves may be as young as 10 years and are by no means limited to inhabitants of slum or "substandard" housing areas.

In fact store managers are convinced that such economic factors are relatively unimportant: juveniles pilfer for the "kicks". This is borne out by the remarkably uniform operating methods of juvenile pilferers. Unlike professionals who rely on hidden pockets, sleight-of-hand and unobtrusiveness, juveniles, with rare exceptions, act as a group. They may roam a store for hours before one of the group, largely out of bravado, lifts some merchandise. Others in the group follow and in many cases all are caught.

What happens then? This is where the store's problem becomes really knotty. Store managers realize there may have been no real intent to commit theft initially and that at least some members of the group may have been forced into pilfering through fear of suffering the scorn of their peers. To call the police and simply say "Here is a bunch of no-good young punks —lock them up" is obviously unjust.

Still, the store cannot tolerate theft. To do nothing would be to invite further thefts and perhaps convince some juveniles that crime does, indeed, pay.

The bigger stores—the ones which can afford the staff and the time—try to meet the problem by calling in the parents of the juveniles caught. If this is impossible, or if it seems likely to be of little use, the store then calls on an appropriate social agency — Neighbourhood Workers, Big Brother Movement or some such. The results of this approach have been startling —at least on the surface: no significant incidence of repeaters. But this may not be as effective a solution as it appears because the offenders may simply transfer their activities to other stores. And the fact, again, is that juvenile pilfering is increasing rapidly.

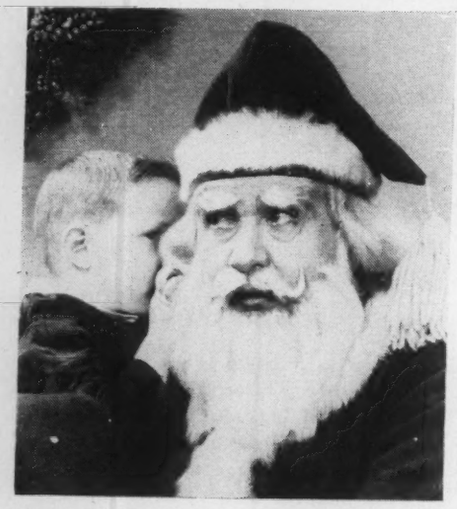
(In London, a large department store has tried a new approach: former policemen are hired and dressed as Santa Claus. Juveniles, the store feels, "would never expect the old boy to be a copper".)

What do pilferers take? Usually what the retail trade calls "traffic items". These are merchandise items widely and com-

petitively advertised, prominently displayed and carrying a relatively low markup. Transistor radios are a major target for pilferers, particularly juveniles.

This, perhaps, points to a deeper aspect of pilfering than merchandisers would care to admit: it may in great part be a creature of their own making. Having exploited cupidity and the "herd instinct" of the public—and particularly youth—through advertising, merchandisers may now be viewing the obverse of the profit coin.

But, having lured the Christmas shopping throngs in, retailers are immediately



Ears for the kiddies, but eyes for . . . .

faced with another bothersome problem: keeping them happy. Sales staffs must be expanded—and trained, if possible; departments must be reorganized—some expanded and some contracted—delivery services must be increased and so on. In fact, an executive memorandum book for one large national chain lists some 300 separate items that must be considered in planning for Christmas trade.

These range through such matters as store hours, night openings, a toytown that must be built complete with merry-go-round and fish pond, Christmas candy and popcorn (should it be the kind customers can smell or not), Santa Claus letters to send out to the kiddies, Santa himself, window displays, main theme store decorations, special telephone systems, posters, price cards, organizing staff carol singing (this also involved getting a director, accompanist, arranging radio time) expanding the gift wrapping and shopping services (some companies order up to 1,000 individually wrapped Christmas presents) and so on.

For the larger stores, Christmas preparations start as much as eight months before Christmas sales begin. Advertising themes, for example, must be carefully prepared to balance urgency with restraint. This has become especially important in recent years because of a growing feeling that Christmas has been improperly exploited by business. Similarly, public taste must be evaluated so that appropriate merchandise can be ordered to satisfy the expected Christmas demand.

Staffing is always a major problem. Smaller stores often rely on manufacturers' agents taking part-time Christmas jobs. Larger stores, however, must rely on former employees, married women and students. Most of this help is inexperienced and this, in turn breeds ructions with customers.

The Canadian Association of Consumers, for instance, is concerned about Christmas toys. While agreeing that toy manufacturers are trying increasingly to meet Children's needs in toys, the CAC feels that some of the manufacturers' best efforts are being defeated by "the weakest links in the chain—the store buyer and sales clerk". The CAC says that when it comes to the retail level, some buyers, even in large department stores, have the task of toy buying thrust on them with no opportunity to bone up on recent trends and developments. There are, the CAC says, many department stores that maintain no year-round toy department and this is where the trouble starts. The same criticism applies to part-time sales help—no training and no knowledge of the field.

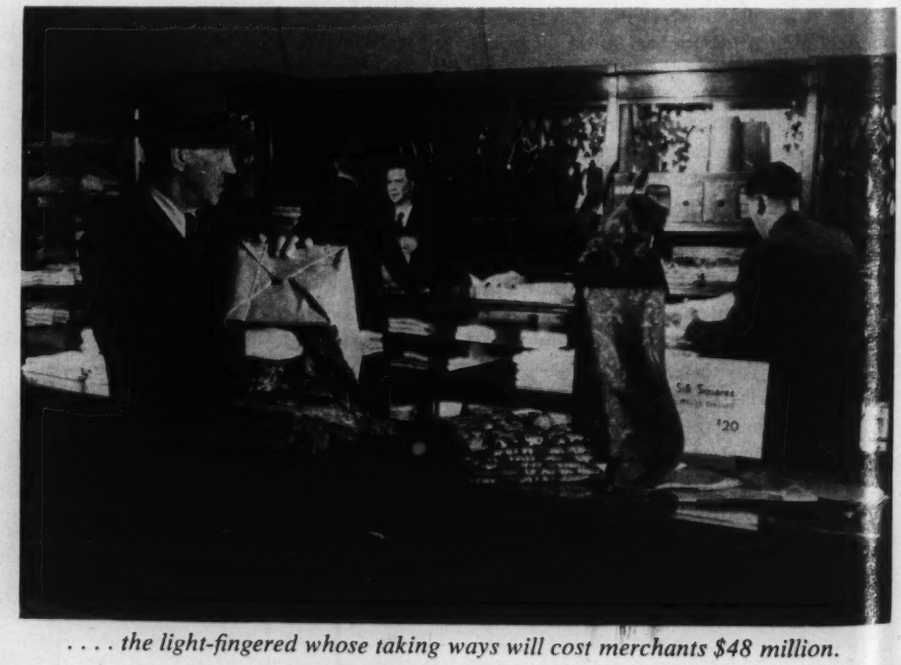
Indeed, staff problems for business and industry aren't circumscribed by the need to find more employees. For many industries, the main problem is to keep the ones they have.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics figures for the industrial composite show a drop in average earnings at Christmas time. The single exception is, naturally, retail trade. While not a perfect substitute for absenteeism figures (which aren't compiled), weekly earning records provide an indication of the extent to which employees tend to lose interest in their jobs. Last year aggregate payrolls dropped in Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Windsor, Ottawa-Hull, Winnipeg and Vancouver. The declines were roughly four per cent of average weekly earnings—which at a time of peak activity indicates a good number of people away from their jobs and earning nothing.

Perhaps no business interruption has received more publicity in the last few years than that ubiquitous aberration, the Office Christmas Party. Officially scowled upon by police forces, held in either trepidation or resignation by office staffs and in baffled futility by office managers, the Office Christmas Party is still very much alive.

The National Office Management Association, while disclaiming any official policy toward parties, feels that most of its members "simply shudder" at the possibilities involved in Christmas parties. The only glimmer of hope seen by the office managers is the apparent trend to hold the Office Christmas Party in a hotel or some other public meeting place. This, they think, may work against the "breakdown in normal employer-employee relationships"—the spectre that haunts the party planning of every office manager.

Closely allied in meaninglessness to the Office Christmas Party is the Company Gift List. Here again, despite a great deal of talk about the absurdity of the practice, it is still flourishing. (The most popular gift—liquor—is actually illegal.) A few die-hards contend gift-giving has some business value but most businessmen now are willing to admit they give "only because everybody else does". But a new wrinkle has developed here, too. Instead of sending gifts at Christmas when it is apt to be "meaningless", a growing number of companies send gifts at mid-year, on the company birthday or at some other more-or-less artificial occasion. This, they feel, preserves the "value" of gift-giving and heightens the impact for the company.



. . . . the light-fingered whose taking ways will cost merchants $48 million.

Of all Christmas time problems, none is more persistent than that of money. Consumers, caught up in the "Christmas spirit", overspend their budgets and then must look about for money to borrow. This year their chances of finding borrowable funds—at legal rates—is slimmer than ever.

Chartered banks say they experience little increase in demand for personal loans at Christmas and by and large have little cash available for such an increase in any event.

Personal finance companies, however, do experience an increase in demand at Christmas. Yet, significantly, finance companies are making progressively fewer loans, in proportion to the number of applications, than they were a few years ago.

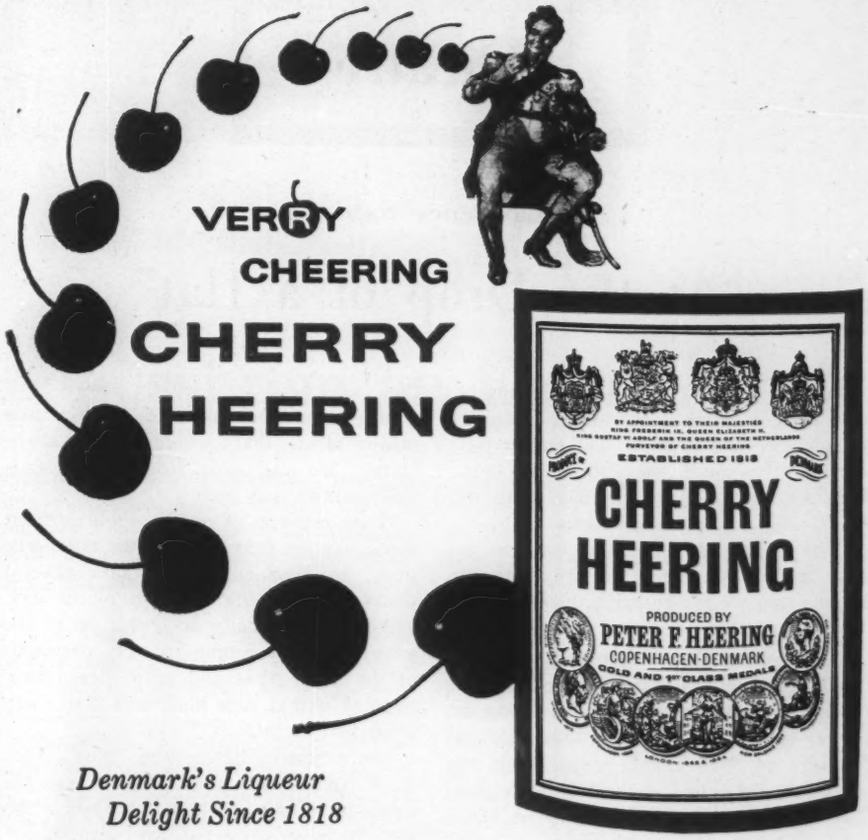
Household Finance Corp., Canada's largest small loan company, has cut its loans granted to applications received ratio to less than 50 per cent compared with more than 85 per cent in 1956. Company spokesmen say many applicants who would have been accepted two years ago would stand no chance today.

How extensive is Christmas time borrowing? There are no figures available that provide the answer. But finance company reports show that borrowing to consolidate overdue bills accounts for almost 22 per cent of the total loans made. Finance company officials also say that borrowing for this purpose increases sharply at Christmas time while borrowing for other major categories—medical bills, 13 per cent; moving, 10 per cent and repair bills, nine per cent—falls off steeply.

What this means is that more people are being forced onto the illicit loan market. Finance company officials say the problem of the "pants-pocket lender"—the person who lends $50 for a week and collects $55—is nowhere nearly as pervasive as it was in the Depression years. But it does exist. By charging $5 interest for a one-week loan of $50, they point out, the lender actually collects interest at the rate of 520 per cent a year.

Finally, those persons lucky enough to obtain money from a finance company would do well to note the recent figures for suits for recovery under small loans contracts. The report of the Superintendent of Insurance on the four licenced small loans companies and the 75 licenced money-lenders shows that suits for recovery totalled 1,148 in 1953; 1,158 in 1954; 1,145 in 1955; 1,173 in 1956 and then soared to 1,892 in 1957.

If all the foregoing suggests that some of our frenetic Christmas rituals are touched with madness, there is one point to keep in mind: it is madness only in excess of virtue. Gift-giving pays homage to the social virtue of acquisitiveness, the Christmas Party to gregariousness, and the pilferer to that demi-god of business, merchandising.



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UNIVERSAL
GENEVE

Theatre

by Lawrence Sabbath

"At the Drop of a Hat"

"TIMING IS A MATTER of good manners. The trick is to make the audience use its imagination and to work. The harder they do so, the more they like the show. Our act starts slowly, casually, until the spectators get used to my voice.

"We adjust to them and they to us, and before you know it, they get the feeling that we are enjoying their presence as much as they are ours."

This from Michael Flanders during an afternoon interview with him and Donald Swann. It was very much like being on stage with them at the John Golden Theatre in New York where they are currently delighting the public with their two-man show, "At the Drop Of A Hat."

Using a deceptively simple format that consists of a piano, brief monologues, banter and songs, they have fashioned, out of what they call "an after-dinner farrago", a unique contribution to theatrical entertainment.

The laughs they evoke are not from the belly, nor are they chuckles. It's rather more a pleasant, satisfying laughter. No one is rolled in the aisles, but no one sits notably still for very long. They are witty, adult theatre men who make their special kind of literate nonsense seem civilized to laugh at.

Flanders, who did most of the talking, as he does at the stage show, continued with his remarks about "why, I think, people may like our show. It doesn't fit any of the three revue categories in England, like the Palladium, or large revues with orchestras and stars. Nor is it the intimate revue where you have from four to twelve performers.

"It just grew out of what we ourselves like to hear and do. It is also no accident. These 20 songs are the pruned best from a repertory of some 250."

They inquired about Canadian revue and, from my description of the types popular in Montreal and Toronto, Flanders said, "Sounds like the Billy Barnes show, which is the only one I have seen here. The material is stale and naive. Take that spoof of 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof'. This is old-fashioned stuff that we discarded years ago.

"This is just what we try to avoid, standard fodder and things done before. We don't copy, we have our own ideas. Our sketches are seldom over five minutes and they do not contain two many ideas that would stifle sharp humor. We stay away from current fads like beatniks and such.

"I do make brief squibs about current news, like the first week of the cranberry story. In England, people take several weeks to digest the big news of the day, and when we finally do a skit on it, the joke lasts. Here people are very conscious of the latest news and so it means lampooning it that very night and then there is no further interest."

Their material has nothing "blue" about it. A young lady does walk across the stage, once only, to hand Flanders a top hat. "I have suspected for some time", he said, "that Swann finds this arrangement comforting when he is off-stage during my solo act."

In appearance, Flanders and Swann have been compared to "Falstaff singing duets with Hamlet". They are both about 36 and Swann, who is married and has two young daughters, looks and acts like a kind, musical firefly. He abhors all publicity and, despite the reams of light music he has written, he prefers his serious hobby of composing new settings for church service.

Flanders, who allowed Swann barely to nibble at the conversation, is an extrovert, hates writing, although he does all the words for the act, prefers radio and TV work, and has made over 1000 broadcasts. He is currently chairman of the BBC's Brains Trust discussion programme. Like Swann, he served in the forces. He is still confined to the wheelchair from a polio attack in 1943.

Although they cannot have any future plans because of their New York run, they are amenable to the idea of performing in Canada, and have already been approached about it. Flanders has relatives in Toronto and is curious about Canadian reaction to their material.

"Actually we know a good deal more about North Americans than they think, on account of TV and movies. In England we are not thought of as typically English; in fact I am half-Irish and Swann is half-Russian."

Why did they think Americans took to them so quickly? "For one thing, there has been a revival of interest in single and duo artists. Musicals appeal only to the lower taste levels and this has created a gap that Gielgud, Emlyn Williams and others have been filling. Many people like being talked to, read to, to feel participation instead of the dark isolation that exists across the footlights. Words have been ignored, the accent has been on the visual, and now this intellectual group, small but important, has been feeding its starved and neglected self.

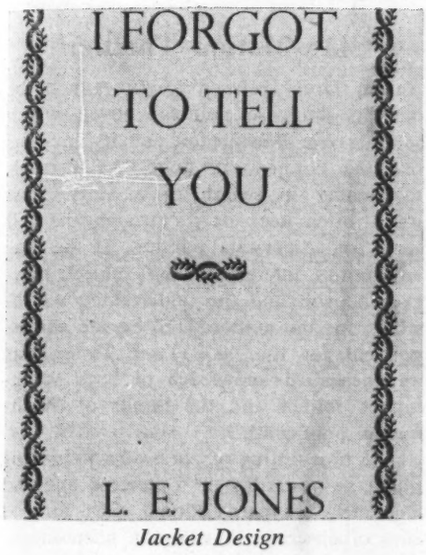
"Whenever possible, I do not hesitate, (not too often, mind you) to make a friendly remark to someone in the audience. It creates a warm *rapport* that both theatregoer and performer need."

Flanders and Swann: "Falstaff singing duets with Hamlet".

Books

by Arnold Edinborough

Bonus From an Elderly Party



Jacket Design

I HAVE NEVER MET Sir Lawrence Evelyn Jones but I know him well. For no one could read the three volumes of his autobiography—*A Victorian Boyhood, An Edwardian Youth, Georgian Afternoon*—without making the acquaintance of a lively, cultured and delightful person. In addition to these qualities he also has a prose style which is as crisp and clear as new-baked French bread.

It was with regret, therefore, that a year ago I finished the third and allegedly last volume of his life. It was with renewed pleasure that I took up the fourth bonus volume characteristically entitled *I Forgot To Tell You.*

Sir Lawrence was brought up in France as a boy, fought in the First World War, made a success as an investment banker in middle life and now has an assured position as a writer chronicling an age which has already disappeared. He is a man of wide acquaintance, of general culture; a traveller, a reader and sportsman; good with a gun, expert with an oar—and endowed with a particularly retentive memory. What better person to keep at your elbow?

Readers of a younger generation in another country will, of course, find certain ideals of Sir Lawrence a little jarring. He doesn't like Germans and still regards them as "bloody Huns" in the opposite trench. He can talk of shooting a Turk and a bird in the same breath as if human life and wild life under certain conditions are equal. His experiences of social life lived in English country houses during his Edwardian Youth years is in diametric opposition to North American egalitarianism. But these are only momentary twinges in a book of delights.

With what other companion could we stalk a fox by wriggling up towards it in a narrow ditch? And, as if this were not enough of an achievement in itself, "accompanied, at twenty paces to the rear, for three quarters of the distance, by a fully qualified hospital nurse wearing her best silk stockings".

From fox-stalking in Gloucestershire Jones drifts easily to vulture-watching in the Pyrenees and to mackerel-catching in the Sound of Sleat with only a walking stick and a bent pin for tackle.

But interesting as his physical peregrinations are it is the byways of his own mind which provide the most interesting scenery. Staying at Lerici he spent his mornings on the roof of the hotel re-reading the Old Testament. His purpose: "To discover how much . . . goodness in the highest sense, can be found in those oracles of God which, after nearly seven years of Sunday Questions at Eton, had left so dubious a taste in my mind's mouth". What did he find? A God who was "arbitrary, unjust, jealous, vindictive, a wholesale killer, occasionally disgusting, often painfully pernickety and small minded". His score at the end of the Old Testament: "no more than 122 passages, most of them consisting of a single verse, in which an idea of Goodness is formulated which is seems impossible to attribute to the pressure of either evolution or of society".

One whole chapter is entitled "Vinegar", and the purpose of it is to prove to an English book reviewer who had accused his autobiography generally of being too sunny, that he has and enjoys strong dislikes. Among them:

Mrs. Letitia Barbauld—because she wrote a book called *Hymns in Prose* he had to learn at the age of six.

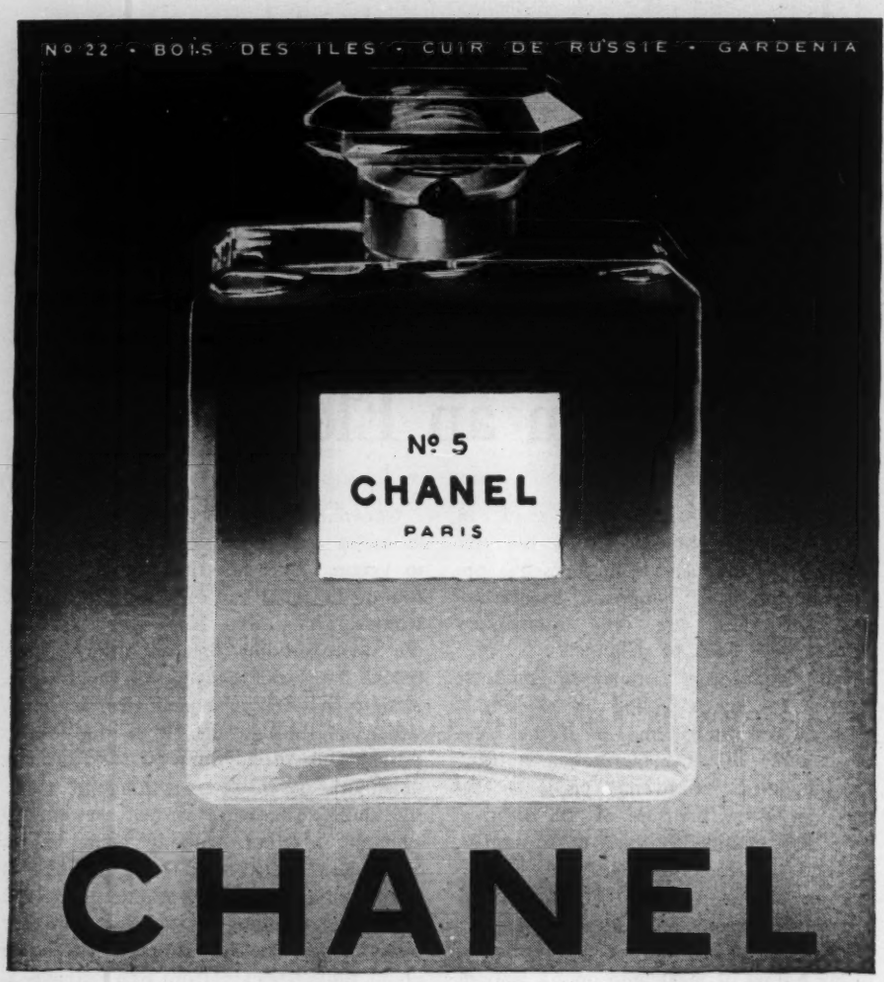
Mary Queen of Scots—because of "sheer disappointment with her looks".

Cocktail Parties—because they "arouse in me a feeling of repulsion amounting to venom. It is not that, being six foot four in height, I can only see the tops of women's hats, and hear with difficulty the sweet nothings that are uttered from below them, nor because of the fatigue, akin to that felt in a geological museum, which overpowers me. It is that I can never think of anything to say, and my neighbors never say anything to make me think. The truth is that we are all unhappy together. Nobody really enjoys noise and chatter and heat. Besides, if once in a way I encounter a friend who has something to say, I am dragged away, before he has time to say it, to stand tongue-tied in front of an ambassadress with wandering eyes. At each party I add to the number of people whom I shall offend, by forgetting their faces, at the next, and cut, unaware, those met at the one before. Cocktail-parties debase social intercourse, spoil our dinners, and diminish goodwill towards men. They ought to be abolished by common consent."

Ballet Skirts—because "they bisect the female thigh, and a repellently muscular one at that, at a most ill-chosen level".

Board Meetings—because "men who are sharp and clear in their own offices become vague and generalising in a board room. Are they a little afraid of each other, or is it simply that the clean pink blotting-paper sucks up their thoughts? Out in the street their heads glow clear again; they tell each other, crisply, what ought to have been done. I have known weighty decisions taken in the office lavatory, but rarely, if ever, round a table. There the only quick decision is to take the minutes as read, no so much, I suspect, because we remember our last month's deliberations as because we prefer not to be reminded of them."

Landscapes—particularly the Canadian landscape "the great middle belt of Canada through which the Canadian Pacific trains lumber for days on end . . . is a country of a thousand lakes, of rocks and ridges and ravines, a 'big country'.



But the shores, the islands, the ridges, the slopes are everywhere clothed with the same lack-lustre, unchanging green of fir trees."

The book ends thus. "I am sorry to have done, and I should like to believe that a few readers will be sorry too." This one certainly is—and, with this extra book in hand, may feel that the end is not quite yet.

I Forgot To Tell You by L. E. Jones—*British Book Service. $5.00.*

Slow-Motion Thriller

Author Drury refused to put any curbs on this immense political novel, which sprawls over Washington and its environs like the Potomac in flood. As a result the reader in search of a story must wade, often neck deep, through the full spate of American politics. If he has any initial interest in the subject however he will find the undertaking worthwhile, for the author, U.S. Senate correspondent for the *New York Times,* has an unexcelled knowledge of both Washington politics and the minds of Washington politicians.

The time-setting of *Advise and Consent* might be yesterday or tomorrow and the characters are part fictional, part composites of observed Washington phenomena; so that it is possible to catch fleeting glimpses of Franklin Roosevelt, Senator McCarthy, Alger Hiss and Harry Truman as the story evolves. It evolves at snail's pace; but since it has to do with the appointment of a rather dubious Secretary of State at a time of international peril, it makes a fascinating tale, involving enough skulduggery in high places to make the reader's hair stand on end.

Unfortunately the narrative is so clogged by procedural detail that he may feel a little as though he were watching a Hitchcock thriller in slow motion.

M.L.R.

Advise and Consent, by Allen Drury — Doubleday — *$6.50.*

Vanishing Tribe

SUB-TITLED "The Last Days of the Maharajas", this is an investigation of their passing. Miss Hahn saw a headline in a British newspaper which read "Indian Princes Threatened with Extinction" and went to India to see. She found they're not extinct, but they have been deposed. Most of them are still enjoying comparative wealth and their titles, living on large estates, though their princely lands have been integrated into the new provinces of India and they have had to part with much superfluous personal property.

In the first of four essays Miss Hahn examines how their lives differ now from the days of British rule. And how Mr.

V. K. Menon "was delegated to go and talk with the princes . . . and, by appealing to their common sense and their consciences, gently persuade them to throw in their lot with the new order" before the Indian government assumed full power on August 15, 1947. One by-product of integration, says Miss Hahn, "is the creeping paralysis it has inflicted on Bombay chitchat . . . When a maharajah was deprived of his powers of life and death over his subjects, for example, his conduct inevitably became a little less picturesque."

The other three essays recount the doings at Phoolsagar Palace, where Miss Hahn was the guest of His Highness the Maharao Rajah of Bundi for a tiger shoot, His Highness's birthday party, and the celebration of the gala Hindu holiday Holi. She might have extended her reporter's brief to write about these incidents with an artist's flair. She seems never to have been excited by anything she saw, nor interested in anyone she met.

The articles appeared in slightly different form in *The New Yorker*. They seem more at home in a magazine than between hard covers. N.A.F.

The Tiger House Party, by Emily Hahn —*Doubleday—$4.00.*

Kitchen Slapstick

ERIC NICOL has three times won the Leacock Medal for humor and has had five humorous books published. He is also widely syndicated as a newspaper columnist and has a devoted following.

Let it be said at once that I am not part of that following, since I find him vulgar as often as I find him funny. This was particularly true in *Girdle Me A Globe,* which won the Leacock Medal two years ago. I can only say, therefore, that *In Darkest Domestica* (which is all about how funny pregnancy is, how hideous the first baby is, and how to cope with "The Golden Age of Slobber and Creep") will probably win another medal. For people who are amused by their baby's first efforts on the potty, by the onset of morning sickness in other people, or by the high price of steak, this book will be a real workout. They will get belly laughs by the hundred. As for me, count me out. K.R.

In Darkest Domestica, by Eric Nicol—*Ryerson—$2.75.*

Nothing Is Something

GIOVANNETTI is a Swiss cartoonist who has invented a hamster to end all hamsters, and calls him Max. Whatever his status in the animal world, Max's status amongst humans is assured, for he is recognizable as the man who always gets innocently into trouble, who is accident-prone and against whom inanimate objects wage per-

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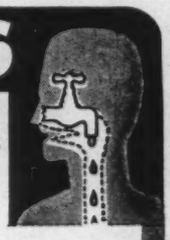

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CHRISTMAS DAY

NEW YEAR'S DAY

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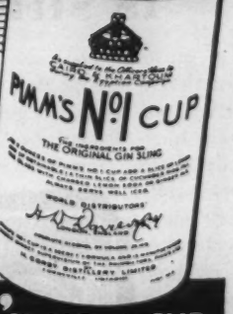

RECIPE

To 2 ounces of Pimm's add a slice of lemon and (if obtainable) a thin slice of cucumber rind. Fill the glass with charged lemon soda or ginger ale. Always serve well iced.

PIMM'S NO. 1 CUP (GIN BASE) NO. 5 CUP (RYE BASE)

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187A

With any kind of good cheese

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sistent war even though Max sometimes remarkably ends up the victor.

For years now he has rollicked through the pages of *Punch* and occasionally *The New Yorker*. Yearly he collects himself for the Christmas market.

In this year's issue Max copes with such diverse experiences as setting his tail on fire, baking bread, making like Zorro and coping with an ostrich egg found in the middle of the Sahara. He also gets entangled in a ski tow, caught up in a potter's wheel and fights a losing battle with jelly on a plate. *Nothing But Max* is the understatement of the year for with Max even nothing is something. K.R.

Nothing But Max, by Giovannetti — *Brett-Macmillan — $3.50.*

A German Thought

A NICELY PRESENTED little book, all about people in whom one has hardly the least interest, with one notable exception, the poet Rilke. And about Rilke one has doubts. Whatever is it about these Germans and Austrians that they cannot refrain from such torrents of verbiage? They are so exceedingly extrovert that they cannot think anything without having to say it at once—and that is, as any professional writer knows, too soon. It takes time for a thought to digest itself, to define; but I do not believe that any Teuton has ever given a thought two minutes. Hence these dust-storms of words, which I do not believe can be any better in the original. If a thing is nonsense in one language, it will be so in another.

So much for complaints. The authoress does kindly by Rilke, with whom she kept up an almost incomprehensible correspondence for the latter part of her life, and rather vaguely with a few others, including Duse. Top marks, however, go to the translator and compiler, who did a noble best with intractable material. S.W.

Memoirs of a Princess, The Reminiscences of Princess Marie von Thurn und Taxis—Translated and Compiled by Nora Wydenbruck—*Clarke, Irwin—$4.75.*

Misfit Monstrosities

DAPHNE DU MAURIER'S recent collection of short stories seems to indicate that the author needs considerably more elbow-room than is permitted in shorter fiction. The nine tales included here deal with people who range from misfits to monstrosities, and in most cases the writer, rejecting the convention of making her characters normal merely succeeds in making them dull. There is little of the suspense and flamboyance that have made Miss Du Maurier, if not one of the greatest writers of her period, at least one of its best-sellers. M.L.R.

The Breaking Point, by Daphne Du Maurier—*Doubleday—$4.50.*

Television

by Mary Lowrey Ross

Theatre on the Little Screen

"The Turn of the Screw"
Ingrid Bergman and Alexandra Wager

OVER THE PAST three months the television screen has made good its promise to bring the great writers of today and yesterday right into the living-room. So we have had, among others, Henry James, Ernest Hemingway, Maxwell Anderson, Thornton Wilder and Henrik Ibsen. From all this welter of high-class production one sound principle seems to have emerged: If it's good theatre, it's good television.

The bold transfer of so many masterpieces has involved considerable adaptation, though less than might have been expected. Some of this was no doubt necessary; but I have never been much persuaded by the argument that a different medium demands an entirely different approach from both adapter and audience. For the novels and stage plays that find their way to the screen are by their nature hand-me-downs, whose great virtue lies in the hard-wearing quality of the original material. This usually means that the best screen adaptations are the ones that follow most closely the dramatic values laid down by the original author.

The difficulties to be sure are formidable, particularly on television when the adapter is called on to fit a masterpiece into a time-slot. There was, for instance, *The Killers* which Hemingway wrote as a short — almost a short-short — story, rigidly disciplined to convey the nightmare implications of terror, violence and death. In the ninety minutes allotted to it on the screen every implication was spelled out, new situations were developed, the central character was lovingly assassinated, and everything that gave the original its dramatic urgency came out shaky and loose. Almost anyone could have written the television version of *The Killers* except author Hemingway.

Maxwell Anderson's *Winterset* fared a little better on the whole. But in this case the adapter's care for the special values of the original were largely wasted. At any rate they didn't shake the twenty-year-old suspicion that *Winterset* was neither very good poetry nor a very good play. *The Turn of the Screw* however was admirably faithful both to Henry James's intention and to one of the great dramatic stories of literature—though one missed the first fearful glimpse of Peter Quint already *inside* the house and leaning over the parapet, as well as the unnerving moment when the "white damned face" appeared at the window. (The face was there, but muffled in harmless stage whiskers.) It is doubtful if any camera could capture the special *frisson* of *The Turn of the Screw,* but on this occasion it did its best, most of the time.

Our Town was another faithful television transcription, over-folksy and a little too trickily commonplace in the beginning, with, as always, nothing to prepare one for that extraordinary third act which resolves all the conscious simplicities in poignant lyricism. This must be, one feels, the one actor-proof, producer-proof, medium-proof third act in the American theatre. Certainly Arthur Carney's over-studied casualness as the narrator did the play no harm in the end. *Our Town* was something to be grateful for and so, more surprisingly, was *A Doll's House,* a period play with enough sound stage craftsmanship to keep it alive in any period. There seems to have been little or no "arrangement" in the television version of the Ibsen play, which looked exactly what it was, a Nineteenth Century drama solidly set down before the cameras with all its rather overwrought decor and dialogue intact.

Watching it, one could easily trace every soap-opera in America back to that stately origin. This is no reflection on dramatist Ibsen, who still stands magnificently beyond the shapeless cycle he happened to introduce. He simply seized so vigorously on the original theme—the conflict of the sexes with woman morally dominant in the end—that everything developed since sounds like the whimper following on the initial bang of the doll's house door. The play has such an indestructible vitality that Julie Harris's performance, enchanting though it was, can't be said, fairly, to have brought it to life.

These prestigious programs reflect great credit on this season's television. But they leave one wondering who is writing the good theatre for good television today, and what will happen when the producers have finally combed the vast rummage-sale of the world's drama for its hour-and-a-half productions.

At present the television writers are kept as busy as short-order cooks, handing up the same ready-made dishes, hotly seasoned with violence, week in and week out. They can still take material from the headlines, (e.g. the recent *Hidden Image*), but the television medium, incessantly absorbing and consuming, doesn't leave them much opportunity to develop anything beyond loosely assembled documentaries. Time is money on television, and you can't get timeless works of the imagination with money and without time.

"A Doll's House": Eileen Heckart, Julie Harris and Jason Robards.

Medicine

by Claire Halliday

Further Advance in Birth Control

An oral contraceptive composed of norethynodrel and estrogen combined, was effective in preventing conception in 830 women for periods covering a total of 8,133 menstrual cycles. It caused a 96 per cent reduction in pregnancy rate. It does not cause irregularities, adversely affect the reproductive system, affect the sex life, or impair fertility after its use has been stopped. The study, which was carried out by physicians representing five institutions, was reported in the July 10, 1959, issue of *Science*.

A "continental breakfast" is now available in St. Luke's Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida, to patients who have been awakened at dawn for baths and medications. The Executive Director of this hospital, when staying in a New York Hotel, was delighted to find, deposited in a service slot in his bedroom wall, a container of hot coffee, hard roll, butter and jelly. Now patients in his hospital are served the same at 6 a.m. if they ask the night before to be put on the breakfast list. The staff says, "It's a small price to pay for a contented patient."

Chloramphenicol probably caused death of premature infants. The high death rate of prematures in an Alabama hospital has been blamed on their routine use of antibiotics prophylactically. The death rate among infants given antibiotics was 144 per 1000 as compared with 29 per 1000 infants not given antibiotics. While different antibiotics were used, death occurred mainly among babies given chloramphenicol, which caused a "gray sickness". When its use was discontinued, the death rate among prematures dropped back to and remained at the same level as before. This conclusion was reported in the *J. American Medical Association* 171:1199, 1959. At another hospital three newborns suffered cardiovascular collapse and died after receiving large doses of this antibiotic.

Acute subdeltoid bursitis can be relieved by the intravenous injection of tolazoline hydrochloride, a powerful dilator of the peripheral blood vessels. Physicians report an excellent response in 71 of 150 cases, and a good response in 68. Injected daily for one to three days, it gave better results than X-ray treatment and was successful where hydrocortisone had failed. Physicians think the drug may promote the transport of calcium away from the bursa. The report appears in the *American Practitioner* 10:830, 1959.

Dental postoperative pain is promptly and completely relieved in most patients by thiamine, according to the U.S.A. *Armed Forces Medical Journal*. Given by injection, thiamine rapidly relieves pain and reduces healing time in dry sockets. Prophylactic use of the vitamin aids in reducing the occurrence of postoperative pain which may, it is suggested, be indicative of a thiamine deficiency in the nerves.

The mouth-to-mouth breathing method (although ideal for starting resuscitation of a person rescued from drowning) is not considered by some physicians to be completely satisfactory. Dr. Peter Safar of Baltimore City Hospitals—the chief proponent of the recent changeover from armlift to mouth-to-mouth resuscitation—pointed out that persons have died suddenly after making an apparent recovery from drowning. "It is quite likely," he said, "that some of these would have survived" if the oral method had been followed up with oxygen, preferably given by an anesthesiologist, either with a mechanical resuscitator or an ordinary anesthetist's bag and mask. Dr. Safar spoke before the American Society of Anesthesiologists, reported in *Medical News* 5:2, 1959.

"Mouth to mouth": Not satisfactory.

Smoking retards infants' growth.

Smoking during pregnancy retards infant's growth. Of 2042 women delivered at one hospital, 668 smoked regularly throughout pregnancy. The mean weight of their babies was six ounces less than that of babies born to mothers who never smoked during pregnancy. Various explanations are offered: Tobacco may have a direct effect on the foetus. Smoking may restrict the placental circulation and thus limit the infant's blood supply. Smoking causes a rise in blood pressure and a decrease in temperature of fingers and toes. Constriction of the blood vessels, repeated ten or more times a day, could affect the nutrition of the foetus, particularly during late pregnancy. The author, who reported his findings in the *British Medical Journal* (2:673, 1959) suggests that smoking may add substantially to the number of premature births.

Hypothermia, by lowering body temperature with ice packing, saved the life of a young man with severe carbon monoxide poisoning. After all the usual methods of treatment had failed to restore consciousness, he was wrapped in a thin plastic sheet and packed in ice. Within two hours his temperature fell to 92° F. Whole blood was given in transfusion and chloropromazine to control shivering. After 32 hours of continuous hypothermia, he spoke rationally. Refrigeration was stopped and the temperature returned to normal within 12 hours. Two weeks later he was discharged, with normal mentality and personality, which were still normal upon re-examination eight months later. The case was reported in the *New England J. Medicine* 261:854, 1959.

A new type of electronic thermometer has been developed in England. It measures a patient's temperature within a second or so of its application to the skin or mucous membrane. The complete unit weighs four pounds and is only 1½" x 6" x 4½". One of its advantages is that the temperature probe can be operated up to 1000 feet from the recording device.

Sports

by Jim Coleman

The Pigeon-Toed Champion

LAST SPRING, early on a crisp morning at Woodbine, Gordon McCann wore a thoughtful look as he rode a two-year-old colt along the road from the training-track to the rows of stalls which are occupied, each racing season, by the horses of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Taylor.

As the well-mannered colt stopped in front of the Taylor barns, McCann slipped from his back and appraised him. McCann has devoted himself to thoroughbred horses for more than 30 years but this particular colt had just given him the swiftest early-morning ride of his career. McCann ran an exploratory hand over the horse's smooth forelegs, turned to Joe Thomas and said: "I won't be surprised if this fellow can out-run Nearctic—and right now!"

Thomas, a lanky Kentuckian who manages the Taylor racing stables, gulped slightly. McCann's words verged on profanation. Here was McCann glibly comparing an unraced two-year-old with the mighty Nearctic, reputed to be the fastest horse ever foaled in Canada. McCann's verbal sin was compounded by the fact that the five-year-old Nearctic, holder of Canada's records for five furlongs and six furlongs, happened to be the Taylors' pride and joy.

McCann's right to make the comparison couldn't be questioned, however. He has trained all the Taylor horses since 1950. He is diffident and uncommonly reticent for a man in his profession. He is further unusual among top-flight trainers in that he rides his thoroughbred charges in their morning workouts. When McCann makes one of his rare positive utterances concerning a Taylor horse, you can prepare to bank the money.

The passage of the months has proved that the cautious McCann was correct, as usual. That two-year-old colt, named Victoria Park, has won seven of his 10 races and has earned $82,162. His ability to carry his blazing speed over impressive distances has encouraged his owners to nominate him for the American "Triple-Crown" events—the Kentucky Derby, The Preakness Stakes and The Belmont Stakes.

Therein lies the story—never before has a Canadian-bred horse been considered good enough to run in The Derby, The Preakness and The Belmont.

No longer is it fashionable for horsemen to utter sanctimonious platitudes on "the improvement of the breed". However, we have irrefutable evidence that the breed of thoroughbred horses in Canada has improved startlingly in the past 20 years.

Twenty years ago, a Canadian-bred colt named Bunty Lawless made a successful invasion of New York tracks but raced only in minor handicaps. Almost a decade later, Kingarvie, Windfields and Cum Laude raised the hopes of Canadian breeders by performing creditably in the U.S. Kingarvie was good enough to run against Armed, the outstanding American gelding; Windfields finished second to Assault in the Dwyer Stakes and Cum Laude set an American record for one mile and one-eighth over one of those pasteboard racing strips in California.

In the past decade, the really good Ontario-bred mare, Canadiana, won U.S. stakes events. Nearctic won the Saratoga Special and, when the mood was on him, was capable of running with the best U.S. sprinters. Tyhawk, bred in British Columbia, set a world record for six and one-half furlongs in Arizona last winter.

In the interests of complete accuracy, it must be recorded that Nearctic barely qualified as a Canadian-bred horse. He was conceived in England and his expectant mother, Lady Angela, was shipped to Canada for foaling. Tyhawk, for his part, admittedly is something of an equine freak and, as yet, he hasn't been tested by horses of top stakes quality.

It is notable that the Taylors, who have been Canada's leading breeders of race horses for eight consecutive years, have waited until now to announce that they have any serious intentions of going after the American "Triple-Crown". The obvious inference is that Victoria Park, in the well-considered opinion of his owners, is the first Canadian-bred horse which is capable of matching strides with the very best in the United States.

There are many embarrassed Canadian horsemen who recall, now, that Victoria Park could have been purchased for $12,500 in the autumn of 1958. The same horsemen consider slashing their wrists when they note that Victoria Park has earned $82,162 in 10 starts—and his potentially-lucrative three-year-old season lies ahead of him.

The Taylors stage a unique sale of yearlings each autumn. They give rival horsemen an opportunity to buy any of the colts and fillies which have been raised on the Taylor farms. The Taylors, however, set their own prices. Victoria Park, for instance, was listed at $12,500.

Surprisingly, there wasn't a single nibble for Victoria Park. Money couldn't have been a major consideration since a Toronto horseman willingly coughed up $45,000 for another yearling which was offered at the same sale.

Conn Smythe, whose racing ventures have been almost as spectacularly successful as his ventures in professional hockey,

Victoria Park: Nominated for the American "Triple Crown".

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was the man who might have been expected to buy Victoria Park. A year earlier, Smythe and his racing partner, Larkin Maloney, had bought Victoria Park's half-brother, a colt named Bull Vic. In the racing season of 1958, Bull Vic had been Canada's champion two-year-old with earnings of $46,060.

But Smythe took one good look at Victoria Park and turned away. One look was enough—because, without a question of doubt, Victoria Park was pigeon-toed.

In justice to Smythe and other horsemen who spurned this remarkable colt, Victoria Park also had a pair of front knees which were reminiscent of those of a housemaid who had spent her life scrubbing kitchen floors.

Such lack of perspicacity on the part of horse-buyers was old stuff to Trainer McCann. He won the 1957 running of The Queen's Plate with Lyford Cay, a colt which had been returned by a dissatisfied purchaser from the Taylor yearling sales. This summer, McCann also was to win the 100th running of The Queen's Plate with New Providence, another colt which had been ignored by rival horsemen.

Victoria Park, the pigeon-toed reject, came to the races in the Taylor colors and won his first four starts. In his fifth start, he stumbled at the break, careened into another horse and cut himself badly with his own hoof. The injury forced him out of action for weeks and, then, he ran twice in the United States but he hadn't regained his top form. He came home to Toronto to win Canada's two richest juvenile races: The Coronation Stakes and the Cup and Saucer Stakes. To round out his season, Victoria Park went to New York and scored a brilliant victory in the $30,000 Remsen Stakes.

Among his beaten rivals in the Remsen was Progressing, which later won the $100,000 Pimlico Futurity. Trainer Sunny Jim Fitzsimmons regards Progressing as "the-horse-to-beat" in the Kentucky Derby.

Two jockeys have put the stamp of approval on Victoria Park. Said Avelino Gomez: "This is the best Canadian-bred I ever rode." Dismounting after winning the Remsen, Eric Guerin said admiringly: "This is a real race horse—he just loves to run."

As befits a horse with his annual income, Victoria Park is wintering in Florida. If all goes well, he will start in the $100,000 Flamingo Stakes. A creditable performance in the Flamingo will entitle him to start in The Kentucky Derby.

Remember—no Canadian-bred horse has won an American "classic" race. Despite his enviable record, Victoria Park is no better than a 50-to-1 risk in the Kentucky Derby. The race is still five months away—he might not even get to the starting-post.

Insurance

by William Sclater

Accident Lawsuits

After years of litigation attempting to get some measure of justice for a child hopelessly crippled by an auto accident, the full effects of which only came to light long after the accident, I am convinced Canada needs to take a great forward step in dealing with these. The courts are often crowded with such cases and while they create a fertile ground for legal fees, which is not the fault of the legal fraternity, I shudder to think of the misfortune and misery which must ensue when the victim cannot afford good legal advice and representation. There must be some better way of dealing with auto accident cases that we should endeavor to start right here.—Mrs. R., Barrie, Ont.

How right you are. I could not agree with you more. I think our whole system of auto-accident injury compensation gets right off the proper track when it goes into the courts in the first place. In trying to establish degrees of responsibility we waste time and money that could be spent to much better and more proper purpose on the injured victims. The question of fault is not important to the person injured.

It is high time we modernized our thinking along the lines of the mass production and streamlined methods of our modern era in dealing with this problem. We do not need faster courts and judgments. These cases should never be permitted to encumber any of our courts. We have laws to deal with drunken and irresponsible drivers and our courts should deal with such cases for they directly concern the freedom of the individual and whether it is to be restricted in such cases. But the victims of auto accident should be able to deal directly with an impartial board whose only concern is the amount of medical care and compensation needed by the injured person.

Standard scale of recompense can be set up to deal with all the simpler injuries to permit the time needed for the more complex cases. We are paying substantial premiums to cover our liability. If these were pooled to meet the needs of the victims without the drain of the courts the funds available would be better able to recompense the victims. Many juries today, in their disregard of the negligence factor where an injured person is concerned, are pointing the way to the need for a system that recognizes only injury resulting from auto accident regardless of who was at fault or in what degree.

And as the death and accident toll rises on our streets and highways the greater the pressure is going to be for a more just and equitable system for the injured victims. What is needed is a provincial compensation board in each province appointed by the provincial authorities and acceptable to the insurors and other parties concerned.

Multiple Line Coverage

What is Multiple Line coverage? I do business with two agents but one tells me because his company is now a multiple line company I will be well advised to do all my business through him. I like doing business with both. What do you advise? —M.E., Galt.

Keep on with both if you're satisfied and happy but ask the other agent what he thinks and then you'll have both sides. Maybe he represents a multiple line agency. Some fire and casualty companies are becoming life companies also. And some life companies are extending to write fire and casualty. Similarly some fire and casualty agencies are becoming multiple line agencies by including life companies.

Mortgage Protection

Should I take out mortgage insurance? An insurance agent friend has suggested I do so. I am married, with two children and in comfortable circumstances and I am carrying a mortgage of $10,000 on my home, which is reasonably new. It will be paid off in 18 years at the present rate and I have good life insurance. Have you any statistics that show the risk? —G.H., Winnipeg.

Since you have a wife and two children I would suggest an inexpensive mortgage cancellation policy would be good added protection in your circumstances. The policy is on your life and I believe the statisticians can come up with figures that show how one out of every six homeowners now age 35 will not be alive when the final payment on a 20-year mortgage is due.

Such a policy would enable your wife to continue living in your house without the worry of a mortgage to consider in the event of your death. You may live to be 100 and won't need it at all but who knows and three good reasons for a widow having a debt-free home are (1) A home (2) a saleable asset (3) a rental income producing property.

Sales and Fires

What sort of view will the fire insurance underwriters take of a certain area down Norfolk County way if there is a sudden increase in the number of fires in tobacco barns this year? Last year the sales were good and the fires were only three but this year the sales are poor and already the fires are over 30. This will hurt the rate for the rest of us. What view will the underwriters take?—J.deP., Simcoe.

Dim, very dim indeed and with all that smoke you could hardly blame them. But it won't be only the insurance underwriters who'll take a dim view of such fires. The judges in our courts take a very dim view of people who set fires for personal gain also. Not only will it be very difficult for them ever to obtain insurance again but they may find themselves in a position where their liberty and freedom of movement is severely curtailed. Fire has a way of telling its own story, especially when some skilled and experienced fire investigators look around.

Private Dwellings

Do fire insurance rates vary much according to the type of construction of a house —whether it is built of stone, masonry or some type of frame? Should it influence my buying?—S.D., Cobourg.

Not necessarily if you like the house and lot. There are plenty of very attractive and well-built houses in a variety of construction materials. About one in every 200 homes may fall victim to fire but it doesn't follow that it is due to the construction. Rates are governed by factors such as location, type of fire protection available and at what distance among other things.

If you were in an area in southern Ontario where the three-year private dwelling rate, including the new extended coverage form, was approximately .55 for building and .70 for contents for houses built of solid stone, brick, solid or hollow concrete block, or concrete panel, gypsum block and hollow tile then the rate for the veneered class type of housing would be .60 for building and .75 for contents. This would include brick veneer on frame and other four-inch thick masonry on frame.

For straight frame class such as roughcast, metal-clad, insul-brick, asbestos shingles, composition on frame etc., the rate would be increased to .65 on the building and .80 on the contents.

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Your Taxes

by Garfield P. Smith, C.A.

ABOUT TEN YEARS ago, a tribunal, known at that time as the Income Tax Appeal Board, was formed. The purpose of the Board was to provide a relatively inexpensive method by which taxpayers could appeal against income tax assessments. It was felt that from the numerous hearings which would result, there would be available a history of legal decisions to help clarify the law. In addition, there would also be available the decisions of the Exchequer and Supreme Courts of Canada.

Generally speaking, this has been the case, although there have been decisions which seem to have added to the confusion. This is not too surprising if you consider for example, a case appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada. Such cases are decided by five Supreme Court justices. Whatever the decision, it is not unusual to have two dissenting opinions out of the five. The decision could just as easily have gone the opposite way. The following are examples of some of the areas of confusion.

Business Losses

Prior to 1952, the Income Tax Act provided that a taxpayer's income for the year could not be less than his income from his chief source of income for that year. For example, where a taxpayer was in receipt of salaried income from employment, and also operated a business, then any loss sustained in the business, could not be deducted from his salary, if his salary was deemed to be his chief source of income. That provision of the Act has since been repealed, and generally losses incurred may be deducted from income from other sources to arrive at net income for the year.

There are restrictions in the case of farm losses, where farming is not the chief source of income. Accordingly, since 1952, business losses have been deducted from other income in the year, and assessments have been made by the Department of National Revenue on that basis. In the case of No. 351 v M.N.R., for example, the appellant deducted a 1952 loss from his 1951 profit. On assessment, the Minister applied the 1952 loss against income from other sources for that year, so that no loss was available to be deducted from 1951 income. This basis of assessment was upheld by the Income Tax Appeal Board at that time.

In a recent appeal, No. 657 v. M.N.R., the taxpayer attempted to deduct business losses from investment income in each of the years 1951 to 1955, inclusive. In this case, the Board ruled that business losses could only be deducted from income from the same business and not from income from other sources. This is contrary to the decision rendered in the case of No. 351.

Capital Expenditures

In determining whether expenditures are of a current or capital nature, proper accounting treatment would require that where capital assets are replaced, then such expenditure is a capital expenditure. Repairs, on the other hand, are usually regarded as current expenditures. The difference in treatment of these expenditures is important, because, for income tax purposes, current expenses are deductible in their entirety to the extent that they were incurred for the purpose of producing income. On the other hand, capital expenditures are not deductible. However, capital cost allowance may be claimed in each year in the case of depreciable assets.

In 1955, Haddon Hall Realty Inc. spent $11,000 for the replacement of refrigerators, venetian blinds, and stoves in a 210 suite apartment building. The company claimed this amount as a deduction on its income tax return. However, on assessment, the Minister treated the amount as a capital outlay and disallowed the expenditure, allowing a deduction only of the capital cost allowance. On subsequent appeals, both the Appeal Board and the Exchequer Court ruled that the $11,000 was a current expenditure and allowable in the year in full.

"Nil" Assessments

Under the Income Tax Act, losses incurred in one year may usually be applied against profits of other years. Where a tax return is filed showing a business loss, the Department, on reviewing the file, may reduce the amount of the loss. As no tax will have been levied, no appeal or objection can be successfully sustained. This decision was handed down by the Supreme Court of Canada in the case of Okalta Oils Ltd. This can have serious consequences, because although no tax was required to be paid, the tax for other years will be affected when the loss is applied against income from other years. It may be that in a subsequent year, for example, the taxpayer could succeed in an appeal on the grounds that the loss being applied was improperly computed.

Another disadvantage of the "Nil" Assessment is that there is no time limit as to when the file may be re-opened and re-assessed. Usually the file may not be re-opened after four years from the date of the original assessment except in case of fraud or misrepresentation. Since the Court has ruled that a "Nil" assessment is not an assessment, then there is no date from which the four year period will commence to run.

Foreign Tax Credits

Where a Canadian resident receives income from a foreign country, it is very likely that foreign income tax will have been paid on such income. Provision is made in the Canadian Act for a foreign tax credit subject to limitations i.e. the foreign tax credit cannot exceed the Canadian tax otherwise payable on the foreign income.

If, for example, a person received dividends of $1,000 from the United States, a 15% withholding tax, amounting to $150 will have been deducted at the source. This, in turn, could normally be deducted from the Canadian tax. If the foreign investments were purchased with borrowed funds, and the Canadian resident paid interest of $350, the foreign tax credit allowed by Canada would be 15% of the net amount, that is, 15% of the net profit of $650, or $97.50. This was so both in practice and as upheld by the Courts.

In the Interprovincial Pipeline Company case, which was reported on recently, the Supreme Court of Canada held that the taxpayer was entitled to a tax credit of 15% of the gross revenue and that no deduction need be made for interest paid. Interprovincial borrowed money to loan to its United States subsidiary. The money paid out in interest was far in excess of the interest received. In the years 1950 to 1954 inclusive, the company had received over $6,000,000 in interest from its subsidiary, and from which 15% tax was withheld.

Both the Department and the Exchequer Court were of the opinion that the interest paid should be deducted from the interest received, so that the net profit from the United States would be nil. Since there was no foreign income, there could be no foreign tax credit. As a result of the Supreme Court decision, which reverses the previous Exchequer Court decision, the company will now receive a very substantial refund.

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In 1955, Haddon Hall Realty Inc. spent $11,000 for the replacement of refrigerators, venetian blinds, and stoves in a 210 suite apartment building. The company claimed this amount as a deduction on its income tax return. However, on assessment, the Minister treated the amount as a capital outlay and disallowed the expenditure, allowing a deduction only of the capital cost allowance. On subsequent appeals, both the Appeal Board and the Exchequer Court ruled that the $11,000 was a current expenditure and allowable in the year in full.

"Nil" Assessments

Under the Income Tax Act, losses incurred in one year may usually be applied against profits of other years. Where a tax return is filed showing a business loss, the Department, on reviewing the file, may reduce the amount of the loss. As no tax will have been levied, no appeal or objection can be successfully sustained. This decision was handed down by the Supreme Court of Canada in the case of Okalta Oils Ltd. This can have serious consequences, because although no tax was required to be paid, the tax for other years will be affected when the loss is applied against income from other years. It may be that in a subsequent year of profit, the taxpayer could succeed in an appeal on the grounds that the loss being applied was improperly computed.

Another disadvantage of the "Nil" Assessment is that there is no time limit as to when the file may be re-opened and re-assessed. Ordinarily, the file may not be re-opened later than four years from the date of the original assessment, except in cases of fraud or misrepresentation. Since the Courts have ruled that a "Nil" assessment is not an assessment, then there is no date from which the four-year period will commence to run.

Foreign Tax Credits

Where a Canadian resident receives income from a foreign country, it is very likely that foreign income tax will have been paid on such income. Provision is made in the Canadian Act for a foreign tax credit subject to limitations, i.e. the foreign tax credit cannot exceed the Canadian tax otherwise payable on the foreign income.

If, for example, a person received dividends of $1,000 from the United States, a 15% withholding tax, amounting to $150 will have been deducted at the source. This, in turn, could normally be deducted from the Canadian tax. If the foreign investments were purchased with borrowed funds, and the Canadian resident paid interest of $350, the foreign tax credit allowed by Canada would be 15% of the net amount, that is, 15% of the net profit of $650, or $97.50. This was so both in practice and as upheld by the Courts.

In the Interprovincial Pipeline Company case, which was reported on recently, the Supreme Court of Canada held that the taxpayer was entitled to a tax credit of 15% of the gross revenue and that no deduction need be made for interest paid. Interprovincial borrowed money to loan to its United States subsidiary. The money paid out in interest was far in excess of the interest received. In the years 1950 to 1954 inclusive, the company had received over $6,000,000 in interest from its subsidiary, and from which 15% tax was withheld.

Both the Department and the Exchequer Court were of the opinion that the interest paid should be deducted from the interest received, so that the net profit from the United States would be nil. Since there was no foreign income, there could be no foreign tax credit. As a result of the Supreme Court decision, which reverses the previous Exchequer Court decision, the company will now receive a very substantial refund.

"Near-term outlook is promising"

"Economic conditions here and abroad suggest that we may be reasonably confident about the immediate outlook", said Neil J. McKinnon, President, addressing the 93rd Annual Meeting of The Canadian Bank of Commerce.

When we met a year ago we had passed through a mild recession and were on the verge of a forward movement in economic activity. Many lacked confidence in the outlook at that time but the advance during the year dispelled doubts and we may now anticipate that this year there will be a greater production of goods and services than we have experienced in any peace-time period.

The latest figures for Gross National Product, those for the second quarter, indicate a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $34.7 billion, an increase of about seven per cent over last year, and of about 5½ per cent on a constant dollar basis. It seems likely that despite temporary hindrances to production the final half of this year will show a similar increase.

Industrial production throughout the year has reflected on the one hand the pressure of demand in various sectors, and on the other the effect of strike action, here and in the United States.

Manufacturing now appears to be resuming its upward trend, with durable goods indicating a more substantial gain than the non-durables. A high level of potential domestic demand may well be made effective by a currently high level of personal disposable income. All told, available information suggests that industrial production should be maintained at a satisfactory rate in the immediate future.

Agriculture has had on the whole a satisfactory year. The growth of population in our country during the past twenty years has helped greatly to solve many marketing problems but the problem of marketing our largest crop, wheat, continues. Farm incomes, however, have remained at levels which have encouraged a high rate of sales of farm machinery. Continued investment in modern machinery, the ever-widening application of technological advances and improvement in farm management to which our agricultural colleges have contributed so much combine to improve productivity and increase efficiency.

Consumer expenditures have been reflected in retail sales which have been at record levels in practically all lines. There seems reason to expect a continuance next year, though distribution of expenditure may be somewhat different than in the present year, with a larger proportion being directed to automobiles and non-durables and a somewhat lower proportion to household goods.

Capital investment expenditure in 1959 has exceeded forecasts at the beginning of the year, a condition characteristic of rising confidence and rapid growth, although the total may not be much ahead of the average of the past three years. Expenditures on housing have fallen somewhat below the level expected early in the year, while industrial construction has risen slightly above. There are indications that capital investment in 1960 will rise perhaps more significantly in machinery and in industrial construction. The improvement in corporate profits this year will likely have an encouraging influence.

Export trade was just holding its own as compared with last year until the end of the third quarter, when a substantial increase in shipments to practically all areas brought the nine-month total to a near-record level.

Imports have reflected both an increase in capital investment and enlarged consumption expenditure on durable goods. The larger increases have been in machinery, automobiles and parts, and rolling mill products. The source of the greater part of our imports is the United States but the proportion to the whole this year is somewhat lower than in 1958 and the other countries from which our imports are normally heaviest all show well-distributed increases.

With our heavy dependence on foreign trade as well as the development of our modestly growing internal trade, we must be alert not only to the changing pattern and conditions of world trade, but also to the nature of the internal economy and sources of materials of those countries which have provided markets for our exports.

Employment normally lags somewhat in a recovery period of a business cycle. However, with rising sales, an increase in employment eventually becomes necessary, and employment figures have responded throughout the year.

In September less than three per cent of the labour force was unemployed which, allowing for temporarily unemployed and the unemployable, is considered to be full employment. Trends in employment continue; the number engaged in agriculture declined while the number in trade and in the supply of services increased.

The strong consumer demand during the year had a direct effect on the credit situation. In October of last year, the Bank of Canada stabilized the money supply. However, increased consumer buying during late 1958 and early 1959 necessitated trading concerns carrying larger amounts of accounts receivable and inventories and generated increased demand for loans to individuals and increased use of consumer credit of all kinds. These conditions caused steadily increasing use of bank credit, particularly from small and intermediate sized borrowers. Within the banking system loans to larger borrowers in the aggregate remained at totals about the same as those of two years previously, while a very large increase took place in loans to smaller borrowers. The rapid increase in bank loans in the early part of the year finally caused the chartered banks, in the absence of leadership through a central bank interest rate or otherwise, to move to stabilize a situation which was then creating an impairment of confidence in the capital markets. In May, an anouncement by The Canadian Bankers' Association warned of the tightening monetary situation but because of a lack of public endorsement in official quarters, it failed to have influence. The continuing sales of government bonds by the banks in order to release funds for loans caused increasing pressure on a bond market already greatly strained by the necessity of financing large new issues principally by governments and, as a result, both short-term and long-term interest rates continued to move up sharply. In August a point was reached where the banks, acting again through The Canadian Bankers' Association, had to exer-

THE

cise forceful leadership and control in order to avoid immobility in the banking system and to re-establish confidence in the market for public bond issues. The action then taken became effective with beneficial effects to the economy and to financial markets. The selling of government bonds by the banks was greatly diminished, banks then became able to renew and in some cases to add to their holdings of government treasury bills, interest rates on treasury bills and short-term bonds tended to decline and a vitally necessary condition of stability was restored.

Economic conditions here and abroad suggest that we may be reasonably confident about the immediate outlook. The industrial picture looks currently sound provided it is not marred by strikes of the seriousness of this past year. Consumer spending, which has been running at high levels throughout most of the year, promises to continue to do so next year. Capital investment, with the exception of housing, may be somewhat larger than this year. It is more difficult to discern a constructive pattern in our external trade. Much will depend on competitive conditions here and abroad, the level of our dollar in international markets and the level of prosperity in the nations which provide our foreign markets. Inflationary tendencies appear to have subsided and our growth is taking place against a background of reasonably level prices. Although the near-term outlook is promising, much of our national income is based on export markets for natural and semi-processed products and much of our industry depends on a still small, although growing, domestic market. We are greatly influenced by the international environment and we should seek to understand its movement and direction in advance of its impact on us. Equally important, we must seek to maintain a business climate which will give the necessary incentives to individuals and corporations to grow and expand.

J. P. R. Wadsworth, Vice-President and General Manager, reviewed the balance sheet, highlights of which are summarized, and said in part:

The 93rd annual statement records new peak figures in several areas and lower totals in others. Personal savings deposits in Canada at $1,368,000,000 increased by $57,700,000 during the year and loans at $1,200,000,000 increased by $188,671,000.

The unusually large increase in loans made it necessary to sell securities and the reduction in the investment portfolio amounted to $189,400,000. Loans under the National Housing Act at $186,611,000 show an increase of $46,396,000. Under existing monetary conditions our activities in this field are limited. Call loans amounted to $199,756,000, an increase of $25,104,000, principally in day-to-day loans to money market dealers.

Notwithstanding the large expansion in loans during the year a strong liquid position was maintained with total quick assets amounting to $1,497,000,000 representing 53.5 per cent of total liabilities to the public.

The total number of banking offices now stands at 851. During the year the Bank appointed a senior officer as European Representative with headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland.

The offering to shareholders of 900,000 shares on December 12, 1958 increased paid-up capital during the year by $8,971,000 and rest account by $19,736,000.

The statement of undivided profits shows an increase in profits after taxes of $906,033.

Once again I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to all members of the personnel for their loyal and devoted service. The past year has posed many problems, in particular in the field of credit administration, and the role played by the branch managers has been more than ever an extremely important one. They in turn have been backed up by a good team in the Regional Offices and in the Head Office Departments, and I know the shareholders will wish to join with the Chairman, the President and myself in this expression of appreciation.

ANNUAL STATEMENT HIGHLIGHTS
YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1959

ASSETS		
Cash Resources (including items in transit)	$ 410,020,511	
Government and Other Securities	887,339,022	
Call Loans	199,756,578	
Total Quick Assets	$1,497,116,111	
Loans and Discounts	1,200,442,400	
Mortgages and Hypothecs insured under the N.H.A., 1954	186,611,352	
Customers' Liability under Acceptances, Guarantees and Letters of Credit, as per contra	32,552,422	
Other Assets	59,497,653	
Total Assets		$2,976,219,938

LIABILITIES		
Deposits		$2,753,782,801
Acceptances, Guarantees and Letters of Credit		32,552,422
Other Liabilities		13,055,458
Shareholders' Equity		
Capital Paid Up	$53,971,132	
Rest Account	119,736,489	
Undivided Profits	3,121,636	176,829,257
Total Liabilities		$2,976,219,938

STATEMENT OF UNDIVIDED PROFITS

Profit before income taxes	$23,168,380
Provision for income taxes	12,050,000
Balance available for distribution	$11,118,380
Dividends	9,163,828
Amount carried forward	$ 1,954,552
Balance of undivided profits October 31, 1958	1,167,084
Balance of undivided profits October 31, 1959	$ 3,121,636

The full text of the President's and the General Manager's addresses may be obtained by writing to the Secretary, Head Office, Toronto.

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Gold & Dross

The Price of Gold

Frequent references appear in journals, magazines and brokers' literature as to the possibility of the price of gold being increased. Would it be possible for you to outline, in terms a layman can digest, the factors that would make such a step advisable, or necessary?

Perhaps in conjunction, or alternatively, you could suggest a published document that would assist me to understand and subsequently weigh the opposing arguments.—R. E., Fort Saskatchewan.

The agitation for an increase in the price of gold comes almost exclusively from the gold-mining interests and reflects the increasing squeeze on profits between the upper millstone of rising costs and the lower millstone of a fixed price for the yellow metal. The subject of gold and money is broad enough to lend itself to a good deal of assertion which is plausible, not by virtue of being provable, but because the contrary cannot be proven.

Proponents of a higher gold price say it is necessary for the various nations in order to sustain credit expansion at a rate in keeping with possible physical growth. Many economists are, however, of the belief that individual nations don't need gold to finance internal economic growth. They also think that gold is no longer necessary in its historic role of settlement of international balances.

The United States is the world's largest gold owner and is frequently the whipping boy for the yellow-metal hucksters by reason of its adamant position on the price of gold. What the U.S. says about the price goes.

The U.S. is a creditor nation. If it devalued its currency, thereby upping the price of gold, it would remain a creditor nation, still with a claim on a substantial portion of the world's gold stock. One way in which devaluation could have a permanently beneficial effect would appear to be for the U.S. to accept payment for debts in foreign goods, against which it has erected tariff walls.

The proponents of the gold standard and the higher gold price usually claim that the world enjoyed greater prosperity and stability when the main trading nations were on the gold standard. But it's more than possible that the era prior to World War I lent gold a reputation it may never again attain.

It looks as though the planned economy, with a minimum requirement of the yellow metal, is here to stay. But don't sell gold short. It'll be many years before it curls up at the toes. You just can't eliminate something overnight that people have been using for thousands of years. And it's just possible that industrial uses for gold will expand its market.

We would go along with the gold-mining people in ultimately looking for a higher price for gold because that's been its historical course. But we don't swallow their propaganda without considering the possibility of revaluation being only in the more distant future.

If you want to pursue the subject further, we suggest you read some of the works of Keynes, the British economist. We don't agree with ail he says but his writings have the virtue of being the work of one of the few traders who ever beat the London Stock Exchange for millions of pounds.

Halmon Mining

Could you please tell me why Halmon Mining & Processing was thrown off The Toronto Stock Exchange? Are there any prospects at all of the Halverson process taking over?—E.S., Montreal.

Halmon was dropped by The Toronto Stock Exchange in 1958 pending clarification of a financial statement. This apparently has not yet been effected since there has been no indication of relisting.

The company has reportedly relinquished its interest in an option on iron-titanium claims in eastern Quebec. It is, however, retaining rights to the Halverson process for working titanium-bearing iron ores.

The possibility of a change in control of the company is the subject of speculation from time to time but in the absence of specific information one can only guess as to what group is involved.

Uranium Outlook

What will happen to uranium equities in view of the prospective reshuffling of contracts? What should the equity owner do? —B.D., Montreal.

The outlook for uranium companies which would sell their contracts, i.e. those with insufficient ore to complete them, is mixed. Most of them have heavy indebtedness and there would appear to be little prospect of anything being left over for the shareholder after bonds, deben-

tures and bank loans are paid off. This view appears to be substantiated by the heavy discounts which the prices of some of the bonds and debentures represent. It is, of course, admitted that some of them could sell higher if competition to buy the companies' contracts is keen enough. But the outlook for many of the equities remains bleak.

Under these conditions, something may be said for switching from junior uraniums into the three senior producers — Gunnar, Consolidated Denison and Algoma. The purchaser of them could recover his investment in dividends paid from now until 1966, the year to which the contracts are being stretched out. The wisdom of this move depends partly on the tax brackets of the uranium-equity holder. If he is in 50% tax brackets, the switch is going to be less attractive to him than to the investor in a 20% classification.

While these columns have been bearish on the uranium industry for several years, it is admitted that elements of attraction may now reside in the equities of the three senior producers. They will still be in the uranium business by 1966 when civilian markets for the material will be that much closer. In the meantime they will be going about the extraction of ore and one never knows what the development drifts will encounter in the way of new clues to ore deposition. This could make the companies much more able to profit by the forthcoming uranium age.

Imperial Oil

How is Imperial Oil looking in the face of the price wars in the petroleum industry?—B.F., Winnipeg.

The gasoline price wars which occurred sporadically across Canada in the spring and summer of 1959 have abated except in the Vancouver area. The Vancouver situation is caused largely by the trucking of distress-price U.S. gasoline into BC by jobbers, and by prices which two large stores are offering to attract shopping-plaza customers. The consignment system, under which Imperial owns the gasoline until it is sold and pays the dealer a commission, is being used in the Vancouver area and in parts of Ontario and Quebec. It is proving effective in protecting the competitive position of dealers and the company's sales volume.

Net earnings of Imperial for the first nine months of 1959 are estimated at $37,680,000, equal to $1.20 per share of outstanding capital stock, an increase of 10% over the same period of 1958. The improvement is a continuation of the trend indicated in the second quarter.

The company continues to make substantial gains in volume of business. Results for nine months 1959, compared

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NOTICE OF 303rd DIVIDEND

A quarterly dividend of fifty-five cents per share has been declared payable on the 15th day of January, 1960 to shareholders of record at the close of business on the 15th day of December, 1959.

Montreal, Nov. 25, 1959

S. C. SCADDING, *Secretary*

THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Bank will be held at the Head Office, 360 St. James Street West, in the City of Montreal, on Thursday, the 14th day of January, 1960, at 11 o'clock, a.m.

By Order of the Board.
K. M. SEDGEWICK,
General Manager.

Montreal, Que.,
December 1, 1959.

Saturday Night

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with 1958, show that product sales were more than 8% higher and, combined with sales of processed crude, averaged 283,956 barrels per day. Net crude oil production averaged 82,047 barrels per day, an increase of more than 9%. Crude oil processed at refineries was 10% higher at 288,567 barrels per day.

Capital expenditures for new properties and plants in nine months 1959 were $41,799,000; in the same period in 1958 expenditures were $48,969,000.

D'Eldona Gold

What is back of the decision of D'Eldona Gold Mines to start up again on its Noranda area property? As I recall, this company was not exactly a ball of fire when it worked this ground before. Anything new in the situation?—B.L., Toronto.

Revival of exploratory drilling at D'Eldona which is well located in the Noranda-Quemont area, is pointed to a new anomaly located 2,400 feet east and north of the previous workings.

The new anomaly actually was found as a result of a geophysical survey conducted by Invex Corp. on the South Dufault Mines' property, which adjoins D'Eldona to the north. The anomaly overlapped the boundary between the two properties.

Invex is sufficiently impressed with the results of the survey to carry out exploration and drilling on D'Eldona's ground and accept payment for the work in D'Eldona shares.

The original D'Eldona survey in 1945 indicated several anomalous areas and the one that was thought to be the most important was investigated by underground work. While yielding 86,000 tons of ore, it was apparent this zone was not a major deposit. Other anomalies to the south and west of the shaft were investigated without important success. Work then was suspended.

Bethlehem Copper

How is Bethlehem Copper looking? Is optimism warranted on its chance of attaining production? What made the stock skid so much?—S.S., Quebec City.

Selling around 85 cents a share, Bethlehem Copper has outstanding 3.5 million shares, making market valuation of the order of $3 million. This seems low (considering the substantial measures of the ore indicated) until one examines the economics of the property's possible operation and financing. Then the company shows up as one whose shares have appeal primarily for the carriage-trade speculator who can afford to wait years for dividends.

The company has had the benefit of a highly credible consultant, who estimated

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an operating profit of $3.4 million per year could be realized from a 7,500-tons-per-day operation at 30-cent copper. This calculation is based on estimated operating costs of $2.25 per ton milled and upon capital requirements of $15 million.

From the foregoing it is apparent that several years' operation would be necessary in order to recover the $15 million capital expenditure even considering the income-tax exemption which new mines enjoy for the first three years of production. For this period operating and net income are about the same thing.

A decision on possible production plans is being held in abeyance pending the completion by the consultant of a detailed report, including indicated ore. This is of a substantial order. In the meantime, the indicated economics of the project have had a dampening effect on speculative enthusiasm.

Wildcats

Will you kindly give me your opinion as to the prospects for Peerless Canadian? Should I hold it in preference to Quebec Ascot shares?—M.W., Peterborough.

Attempting a preferential rating of wildcats like Peerless and Quebec Ascot is like trying to handicap selling platers. You pay your money and take your choice. The chance of any mine turning out to be another Homestake can never be dismissed, despite the remote nature of current prospects.

Anchor Oil

Would you please give me an up to date report on Anchor Oil?—B.G., Windsor.

Search of statistical files fails to reveal anything that could be added to the Anchor picture. It is a small company with obscure prospects; it derives a limited income from natural gas and oil leases in Ontario.

In Brief

Can you provide any information on Barry-Hollinger Mines Ltd.?—H.A., Toronto.

Shares have no value.

Anything new at Opemiska?—M. J., Toronto.

Scheduled expansion is on time.

How's Norbeau getting on?—C.V., Ottawa.

Conducting what one report describes as "all-out exploration and development."

Has Nickel Mining & Smelting obtained any conclusive results at Gordon Lake?—G.G., Kingston.

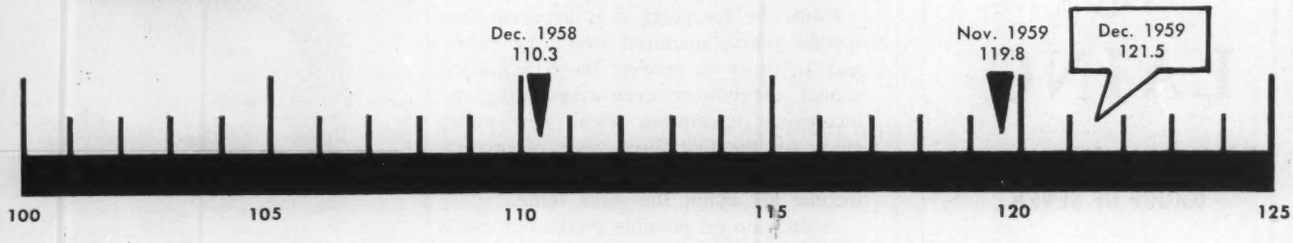
Not yet.

ENCYCLOPAEDIA BRITANNICA APPOINTMENT

C. C. ("BUDDY") ABRAHAMS

The appointment of C. C. "Buddy" Abrahams as Vice-President and Director of Sales of Encyclopaedia Britannica of Canada Ltd. has been announced by Kurt R. Swinton, President. Mr. Abrahams, who has had more than 10 years experience in the educational publishing business in the United States and Canada, joined Britannica in 1953 as General Sales Manager. In his new position he will continue to direct sales operations across Canada for Encyclopaedia Britannica and the Great Books of the Western World.

SN Business Index for December



Indicator Table	Unit	Latest Month	Previous Month	Year Ago
Index of Industrial Production (Seasonally Adjusted)	1949 = 100	166.9	163.2	151.0
Index of Manufacturing Production (Seasonally Adjusted)	1949 = 100	148.6	146.8	136.5
Retail Trade	$ millions	1,301	1,291	1,230
Total Labor Income (Seasonally Adjusted)	$ millions	1,490	1,475	1,355
Consumer Price Index	1949 = 100	128.3	128.0	126.3
Wholesale Price Index of Industrial Raw Materials	1935-39 = 100	242.2	242.0	233.1
Manufacturers' Inventories, Held and Owned	$ millions	4,454	4,442	4,417
New Orders in Manufacturing	$ millions	1,909	1,943	1,772
Steel Ingot Production	'000 tons	517	492	253
Cheques Cashed, 52 Centres	$ millions	20,424	19,757	19,027
Total Construction Awards (Hugh C. MacLean Building Reports)	$ millions	312	291	318
Hours Worked in Manufacturing	per week	41.0	40.8	40.6
Index of Common Stock Prices	1935-39 = 100	252.8	252.5	262.0
Imports	$ millions	495.7	467.1	498.0
Exports	$ millions	471.9	457.5	455.3

Most latest month figures are preliminary ones.

FOR SOME TIME now we have been talking about the gathering economic strength which was going to set new records. Our economy surpassed the old boom records—in most areas—early 1959, but then slowed down to a steady pace. During that plateau period various economic indicators were gathering strength. These are now showing their stuff.

This new or renewed boom will carry well on into 1960.

Our industrial production index (seasonally adjusted) has now posted a new high. The old boom topped at 159.5 back in 1957. Last January this indicator had climbed back there; by April it reached 165.6. It dropped down to 163.2 but has now hit 166.9.

When you break down this composite indicator you find that all its parts are not yet hitting new highs. Mining is; so is the electric power and gas utility industry; but manufacturing, both durable and non-durable, has still to climb over tops set earlier this year. Durables are pretty close to doing that.

All this activity has shrivelled up most of our unemployment. Recently, this has been running below four per cent of total labor force. This is much better than a year ago, but is not yet good enough. A three per cent rate should be the target

Weekly industrial wages, about $75 now, are five per cent above those of a year ago. Part of this reflects longer hours as well as pay increases. The total is ahead of the price jump over the same period.

What are the chances of all this growing bigger and better all the time?

We are on a crest which will take us to boom highs in the first half of 1960. But it isn't shaping up strongly enough to build a long boom. However, there is no reason why new facts showing up in the coming months may not lengthen the boom.

Ever since spring, new orders in manufacturing have been hitting a rate much higher than ever before in history. This is one of the influences behind the boom. But that burst is not continuing; it is slowing down. Take new capital investment as another important indicator of coming business activity. Early this year industrial building started to rebound from a two-year slump. Good. But, again, that push has not got the punch—YET—to carry new plant building strongly into 1961.

Residential housing will not take up the slack. Housing starts are running over 15 per cent behind 1958. Remember, though, that starts in 1958 were so far ahead of anything previous that comparison with it are unfair. We will end this year with a starting rate of about 125,000 dwelling units. Not too bad. In 1960 starts may be lower. That rate will depend on new monies from Ottawa and maybe on changes in NHA mortgage rates to make them more attractive to investors.

There you have it. We're blowing up a new boom for 1960 but we are not giving it a year's guarantee. However, take any strong pessimistic forecasts for the end of that year with a lot of salt. For one, plenty can yet happen to keep the forward-pointing indicators looking up; for two, there's no assurance that a drop, if it comes, will be severe. Remember, right now, that the growing boom isn't a forecast, it's a fact.

— by Maurice Hecht

(Saturday Night's Business Index is a compilation of statistical factors bearing, generally, on Canada's gross national product. It is designed to reflect pace of economic activity. The base 100 is drawn from 1955 data.)

"Something that this country ...just cannot afford"

"Canada is doing business today in an increasingly competitive world. I was immensely impressed, during the course of an extended business trip through the British Isles this autumn, with the vigorous activity and expansion that are apparent on every hand, and with the resolute, and successful, measures to achieve this growth without inflation.

"The United Kingdom and most countries of Europe have faced up to, and dealt with, their monetary problems, and have taken the drastic, unpopular, but necessary steps to achieve stability of costs and prices. Their several moves towards convertibility of their currencies and reduction or removal of import restrictions have placed the onus to compete in their markets squarely upon the seller. These accomplishments of our overseas friends present an example and a challenge, not only to Canada, but if I may say so, to the United States as well.

"I sincerely believe that if we on this continent do not similarly resist the temptation to take the easy inflationary path, there is a real danger of the North American economy becoming a 'high-cost plateau' and living in expensive, but not splendid, isolation from the expanding flows of world trade.

"... another bout of inflation is something that this country, as a trading nation, just cannot afford."

G. ARNOLD HART,
President

YOURS FOR THE ASKING . . . *This quotation is from an address of the President of the Bank of Montreal at its 142nd Annual Meeting. If you would like to receive, when published, a complimentary copy of the complete Annual Report carrying this address, write to:*

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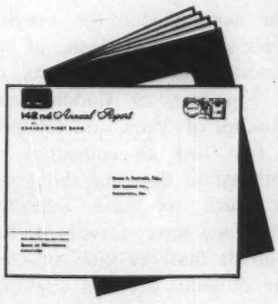

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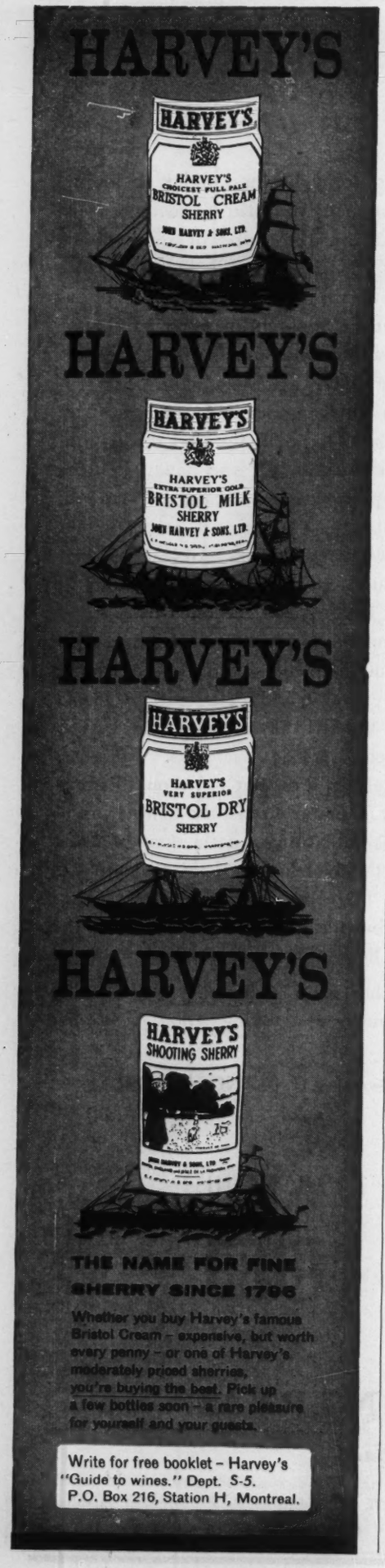

Point of View

by Ben Garrett

Keep Religion in the Schools

AS SURELY AS students clatter back to the classrooms each autumn, so the editorial columns of daily newspapers and weekly journals return to the controversy —Should Religious Education be a part of our Public School curriculum?

By and large, the religious fanaticism of many of those who would retain it is exceeded only by the secular sectarianism of those who would remove it. Yet it might be worth-while to examine one or two basic premises that underlie the liberal's insistence that Religious Education should continue to be a part of the curriculum of the public schools of this country.

Our heritage of western culture has its roots in three far-distant cities—Rome, Athens, and Jerusalem. Very few of our classical philosophies, our arts, or our political theories can be fully understood without reference to their genesis in one of the cultures represented by those three cities. It is, therefore, the prime task of liberal education to make plain in the minds of our children the basic ideas, concepts, values that have been contributed through the stream of history to the milieu of what we call our western civilization.

Platonic and other Athenian ideas of political liberty and social responsibility are woven into the very fabric of what we think of as "our" democratic way; and a state that is by majority-consent "democratic" will seek to inculcate those basic concepts into its youth. As long as we consider the literature and art of ancient Greece to be classic, we will hold up before our children the Athenian concepts of truth and beauty.

The ideas of law and justice—of the somewhat impersonal dignity of the individual before the law, and equal retribution to law-breakers—these are a contribution to us from ancient Rome, and they ought to be a part of the indoctrination of our growing citizens.

By the same token, the assurance that God (or Prime Mover) is One, is Creator and Creative; that the one God is moral, not whimsical; that His laws are dependable, not vacillating — these basic assurances about God are a part of our heritage from Jerusalem. The dignity of man the creature; his responsibilities and possibilities "in a world he never made"—these and other insights of the Hebrew prophets are more basic to our culture than any more recent variations in "social contract" theories or philosophies.

The conviction and compassion that has led to the social-service and world-relief phenomena of our day stem largely from the Christian version of the Biblical view of social solidarity and the duty of man to be "his brother's keeper". Any state in western civilization which fails to inculcate these "Jerusalem" values and insights into its citizens will abandon its birthright. A state such as Canada—by majority-consent "Christian"—has a moral obligation to educate its youth in this important heritage.

The sectarians who wish to limit the education of our children by denying them instruction in the Biblical-Christian insights of our heritage forfeit the right to be called liberal educationists. Their desire to deprive education of its "Jerusalem content" is as seditious as the desire to eradicate respect for law and order, or esteem for truth and beauty.

Recognizing the three-fold roots from which our culture has drawn its life, and deeply concerned that Canadian education should be truly liberal—our educationists have made careful, scholarly efforts to develop courses of Religious Education for the public schools. It is doubtful that any course will be free from error, or free from criticism. The religious sectarians and secular sectarians will continue to declare that the course is prejudicial to "liberty"—because it says too much, or too little; or because it cannot be taught without offence to their own particular brand of sectarianism.

Let us now acknowledge the insights into life of all manner of men, of all history—of Laotze and Michelangelo, of Einstein and Epicurus, of Buddha and Benjamin Franklin, of Marx and Ghandi. But let our first task in education be to set our children to thinking about the great values which we have inherited and from which we have developed. Let there be no doubt that the view of God and man—the religious view of life that this country holds and on which it will develop its society and its culture—is the Hebrew-Christian view incorporated in the ancient literature of the Bible.

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